

## China, S. Arabia 'near to ties'

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese Premier Li Peng met a special envoy from Saudi Arabia Wednesday for talks which diplomats said could lead to an announcement on establishing diplomatic ties soon. Li and Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Riyadh's ambassador to Washington "had a friendly conversation on international issues of common concern," the official New China News Agency said without further comment. Saudi Arabia is the last Arab state to have full diplomatic relations with nationalist Taiwan. Diplomats said it would have to break with Taipei to forge ties with continental Beijing. One diplomat said China and Saudi Arabia could establish relations as early as September and that a timetable would be announced at the end of Prince Bandar's visit. But another envoy quoted Chinese officials as saying said recently that the process could take up to two years. Saudi Arabia's trade with Taiwan far exceeds its business with China, but diplomats said Bandar was motivated by Islamic concerns to switch formal recognition to China where more than 35 million people are of the Muslim faith. "Saudi Arabia sees itself as a protector of Muslims in China," one Western diplomat commented.



# Jordan Times

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## Fahd, Mubarak discuss peace efforts

JEDDAH (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Wednesday discussed ways of accelerating Middle East peace efforts, Arab diplomatic sources reported. Officials said without elaborating that the two leaders were discussing current Arab issues and bilateral relations. But the diplomats said the two men exchanged views on means of getting the United States to help achieve an Arab-Israeli peace acceptable to the Palestinians.

## Blutto ends talks in Baghdad

BAKHAD (AP) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan concluded Wednesday talks with President Saddam Hussein on the Middle East conflict and her country's dispute with India over the Kashmir province, the official media said. Bhutto spent the second day of her state visit on the road, visiting holy shrines at Karbala and Najaf south of the capital. Bhutto was scheduled to leave later for Kuwait, the second stop of a tour aimed mainly at drumming up support for Islamabad's policy on Kashmir.

## Levy puts off meeting Baker

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy will not be able to meet U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Paris next week due to health problems, a foreign ministry spokesman said Wednesday. Levy, 52, suffered a mild heart attack after taking office in June and spent 11 days in hospital. Last week Baker invited Levy to meet him in Paris July 18 or 19 to tackle differences between the two countries over stalled Middle East peace efforts. Three European Community foreign ministers asked to meet Levy in Rome afterwards.

## Algerian premier, ministers leave party politburo

ALGIERS (R) — Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche and four of his cabinet ministers were dropped from the politburo of Algeria's ruling party in a reshuffle prompted by its crushing electoral defeat last month. But they remain in the central committee of the National Liberation Front (FLN), which had been Algeria's only legal party for 27 years. The committee issued a statement of support for the government's economic and political reforms. The shake-up, announced Tuesday night, capped a three-day meeting of the 268-member central committee after an upset victory by the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) in local elections June 12.

## Hamas denounces PLO criticism

NICOSIA (R) — The Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas, vying for leadership of the Palestinian uprising hit back Wednesday at Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The PLO weekly, Palestine Al Thawra, Sunday accused Hamas of playing into the hands of Israel and the United States. "While expressing strong denunciation of this surprise position which comes as Hamas is extending its hand for dialogue and coordination... we declare we will not be dragged into press recriminations benefiting neither side," Hamas said in a statement sent to Reuters in Cyprus. The PLO attack, accusing Hamas of offering itself as an alternative leader of the uprising, was the strongest so far.

## Libyan envoy arrives in Doha

NICOSIA (R) — Libya's armed forces chief-of-staff who is on an Arab tour, arrived in Qatar Wednesday, the Qatari News Agency reported. The agency gave no information on the aim of his visit. Colonel Mustapha Al Kharoubi has already been to Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates, conveying messages to their heads of state from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

## Central Bank reaffirms guarantee; new committee to run Jordan Gulf

# Petra Bank faces liquidation; accounts go to Housing Bank

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government Wednesday ended speculation over the fate of Petra Bank by announcing a decision to close down the financially troubled institution and to transfer all its accounts, including deposits in all currencies, to the Housing Bank.

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi, said all Petra Bank deposits and accounts would now be available through the Housing Bank at the same terms and conditions originally agreed between the depositors and Petra Bank. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Nabulsi said the process had guarantees from the CBJ, which will remain committed to its undertaking to protect all Petra Bank deposits.

The CBJ will serve as a coordinator to speed up the process of transfer of deposits from Petra Bank because "it is one of the most efficient national banking institutions and it possesses the widest network of branches in the Kingdom," Nabulsi said Wednesday. At its heyday, Petra Bank was the second largest commercial bank in Jordan. The Housing Bank is a semi-government establishment, and, as its name suggests, is mostly devoted to promoting housing

schemes in the Kingdom. Nabulsi said all depositors will have the freedom to exercise their right to deposit, withdraw or invest money in any way they like after the process of transfer was completed.

Nabulsi also said that the ESC had repealed its earlier decision to merge Petra Bank and the Jordan Gulf Bank, which was also taken over by the ESC in August last year. A new committee will now be formed to supervise the affairs of the Jordan Gulf Bank to replace an ESC-appointed management panel which ran the affairs of both banks since their takeover.

The new committee will work in full coordination with the Central Bank and ensure the "continuation" of the Jordan Gulf Bank, according to Nabulsi.

The CBJ governor pledged that "serious and responsible efforts will be undertaken to ensure that no Petra Bank employee will be treated unjustly and that all employees would be employed in other banks and financial institutions, including a projected bank to finance exports."

However, this did not appear

(Continued on page 2)

## Palestinians vow to turn Jerusalem into battleground

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in Arab Jerusalem, mourning a teenager they said was shot dead by police, vowed Wednesday to turn the city into a battleground.

Police said Munthir Al Dabed, 16, could have been killed by a bomb he intended to use against a police post but witnesses in Jerusalem's Shuafat Palestinian refugee camp and doctors said police shot him.

According to an internal Petra Bank management memorandum available to the Jordan Times, all Petra Bank accounts, including electronic tellers, will be frozen

In the Arab district of Silwan, near the walled Old City and bordering Jewish neighbourhoods, para-military border police this week patrolled in armoured vehicles while a helicopter hovered overhead.

Israeli-licensed vehicles parked in Arab Jerusalem run a high risk of being set on fire or having their windows smashed.

At Shuafat a young Arab looked past the newly-scarred olive trees to a hillside where construction has begun on a new project to house thousands of Jews.

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The pressure is building and the explosion is not far off. Jerusalem will be another Beirut," he said.

The army demolished the homes of two Palestinian activists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip overnight, military sources said Wednesday.

Both Palestinians, Salim Jabi from the West Bank town of Hebron and Naim Attwana from Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, are awaiting trial, the sources said.

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Parts of Jerusalem are rapidly becoming like towns of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip where Israeli motorists are regularly pelted with stones and petrol bombs.

## Houston summit holds out hope of financial assistance to Moscow

HOUSTON (AP) — Western leaders ended their three-day summit Wednesday, holding out the hope of financial aid to the Third World's economic development.

U.S. President George Bush, who read excerpts from the final communique at the formal closing of the summit, praised his colleagues for their cooperation in working out their differences.

"It's a fine text," said French presidential spokesman Hubert Vedrine said of the leaders' final communique. "It's a compromise that truly reflects the concerns of all the participants."

The leaders met with their ministers for 30 minutes Wednesday morning, shorter than scheduled, as they put the last touches on the communique. It was the 16th annual meeting of European, Japanese and North American leaders.

The leaders expressed pleasure that at moves towards democracy and a free-market economy in Eastern Europe during the past

year, and said they their efforts to help Eastern Europe will not weaken their commitment to the Third World's economic development.

Bush noted that the next summit would be held in London in 1991. After he read the excerpts, the leaders adjourned to hold individual news conferences.

The final minutes of the summit were devoted to reaching agreement on several issues pertaining to cleaning up pollution and protecting the environment, Vedrine said. A British spokesman said the outstanding environmental issues were "minor."

The leaders committed themselves to a worldwide forestry protection plan. Reflecting sharp differences, however, the communique failed to set a specific course for stopping global warming.

"We are committed to undertake common efforts to limit emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide," the com-

municate said, referring to the main gas resulting from industry, cars and other burning of fuel.

The buildup of the gas in the atmosphere allows the temperature of the earth to rise like the inside of a greenhouse.

But the communiqué omitted any specific ceilings on greenhouse emissions, which the Europeans had sought.

The communiqué holds out the hope that Western leaders may offer further financial aid to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Officials said Bush would give a "positive response" to Gorbachev, who wrote Bush before the summit urging the leaders to support his attempts to move the Soviet Union towards democracy and a free-market economy.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said Bush would probably send Gorbachev a letter with the summit's final communique.

Bush also said he would telephone the Soviet leader in the weeks ahead.

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## Hrawi urges militia withdrawal

BEIRUT (AP) — President Elias Hrawi's government called Wednesday for a pullout of militia from Beirut as a first step towards ending Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war. The call came after a four-hour meeting of Hrawi's 14-man government in west Beirut. The statement, read by Minister of Information Edmond Rizk, urged all warring factions to "decide your clear acceptance" of a peace accord worked out by Lebanese legislators under Arab League auspices in the Saudi Arabian town of Taif last October. The Taif accord called for an equal distribution of power between Muslims and Christians. The statement called on rebel General Michel Aoun to "end his mutiny" and ordered his 19,000 troops and officers "wherever they are deployed, to join immediately the legitimate command of Gen. Emile Lahoud or they will be fired from service." The government statement called on Aoun's foe, Christian warlord Samir Geagea, to withdraw his Lebanese Forces militia from the east Beirut districts of Ashrafieh and Karantina and the Beirut port area. It said Lahoud's troops and police forces would "take over" the areas evacuated by the Christian militia in preparation for declaring a "militia-free administrative Beirut including the capital's eastern and western sectors."



## Jerash Festival begins

JERASH (J.T.) — The ninth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts began Wednesday at this ancient Greco-Roman city. Her Majesty Queen Noor lit the torch at the festival site, declaring the 17-day event open for artistic and cultural activities by 12 foreign and numerous local groups. Events scheduled during the festival include

Arabic, French and Polish music, plays for adults and children, puppet theatre, concerts by at least two well-known Arabic singers and dances and songs by Jordanian groups in addition to handicrafts and books exhibitions and many other activities (Petra photo)

## W. Germany welcomes changes in Jordan, pledges aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — West Germany welcomes the ongoing political and economic changes in Jordan and will seek to maintain and increase its aid to the Kingdom, according to a Bonn cabinet minister.

Helmut Schaefer, minister of state at the federal Foreign Office, addressing a gathering at a farewell luncheon for outgoing Jordanian Ambassador Sharif Fawaz Sherif, also paid tribute Tuesday to Amman-Bonn relations and the efforts of Sherif Fawaz to boost cooperation between Jordan and West Germany.

On the political front, Schaefer said, West Germany "will not lose sight of the Middle East conflict" although it is at present preoccupied with great demands due to political changes in Europe and the German unification process, according to a text of the speech available to the Jordan Times (see full text on page 4).

"We will use our membership in the European Community and other far to do our utmost to support meaningful negotiations between Israel, its neighbours and the recognised representatives of the Palestinian people, and to foster peace based on the right to secure existence and self-determination," the minister said.

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## U.S. as sole superpower is dangerous, Iraqi leader says

'Western campaign doomed Bazoft'

PARIS (Agencies) — The emergence of the United States as the sole global superpower poses a danger to world peace, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein declared in a newspaper interview Wednesday.

"It's a threat to the entire planet," the Iraqi president was quoted as saying in the conservative daily *Le Figaro*.

"To give power to one sole person or a sole party, no matter what the internal policies of the country are like or its international relations, is something serious, even something dangerous," Hussein told *Le Figaro*.

The Iraqi president denied in the interview that he had made a threat in April that he would "burn half of Israel" if the Jewish state launched an attack on his country.

"I confirm that the Arabs are not aggressive, but they won't accept having aggression committed against them, nor will they not respond to aggression," he declared in *Le Figaro*.

Israeli warplanes destroyed an Iraqi nuclear reactor a decade ago that Israel claimed was part of a nuclear-weapons project. Hussein has denied his country has ambitions to become a nuclear power.

He predicted eventual victory for the Palestinian uprising despite an influx of Soviet Jews to Israel that many Arab leaders fear could bury hopes of an independent Palestinian state.

Take the case of (Nicolas)



Saddam Hussein

Ceausescu," said Hussein, comparing the Israeli leadership to the Romanian dictator executed during a popular revolution last December.

"Well, Ceausescu, with all the means of his dictatorship, was able to crush the will of the Romanian people when they wanted the joys of freedom?" he asked. "No well, then, how is it that you want the government of Israel to succeed in crushing the will of the Palestinians?"

The interview was the Iraqi leader's second to appear in the French media in three days. On Monday, he told the television network IF-1 that he hoped to hold free presidential elections later this year, the first in Iraq's history.

Hussein also said that he decided not to reprise British

based journalist Farzad Bazoft — executed in March — because of Western campaign to humiliate Iraq.

"When we noted in the clearest fashion that certain (Western) circles were exploiting this affair to humiliate Iraq... we decided not to use our right of reprieve and to allow the carrying out of this correct and just sentence," Hussein told *Le Figaro*.

The Iranian-born Bazoft was sentenced to death for espionage and hanged by Iraq on March 15, despite an international campaign for mercy coordinated by the Observer, the British Sunday newspaper for which he was on assignment in Iraq.

Iraq said Bazoft had spied for Israel and Britain during his reporting trip.

Asked if Abu Nidal, a Palestinian guerrilla leader wanted by various Western countries, had been, or would be given refuge in Iraq — where he was based in the 1970s — Hussein replied:

"Whatever may have been said by newspaper about this, I will tell you frankly that every Arab is welcome in Baghdad if he wants to live here in exile and find refuge, no matter what opinion certain states have about him."

"But there is a difference between... living calmly in Baghdad and acting in a fashion contrary to our principles and policies."

Hussein also said that he decided not to reprise British



Palestinian students stage a demonstration to protest the closure of Palestinian universities in the occupied West Bank by the Israeli army

## Israel jails Palestinian for 38 months for stone-throwing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli military court

sentenced a Palestinian man to three years and two months in prison for throwing a stone at a bus without causing damage, army officials confirmed Wednesday.

The sentence imposed on Salah Hussein Mansour, 21, was one of the stiffest against a Palestinian stone thrower since the outbreak of the uprising in December 1987.

Mansour, of West Bank town of Beit Jalla, had pleaded innocent, an army official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Mansour was not represented by a lawyer during the proceedings Tuesday in the Ramallah military court because of a lawyers' strike, Israeli newspapers said.

Judge Major Yitzhak Isaacson sentenced Mansour to 30 months in prison and added an eight-month suspended sentence from a previous offense. Isaacson also fined him 4,000 Israeli shekels (\$2,000).

Israeli newspapers said Isaacson previously sentenced a 16-year-old Palestinian to two years in prison for stone throwing. In another case, an El Bireh resident was sentenced to three years for the same offense.

There were reports of torture and systematic ill-treatment of political detainees, including beatings on various parts of the body, hooding, deprivation and confinement in coffin-sized cells," it said.

In its response, the Israeli justice ministry contended that Amnesty failed to give an adequate picture of violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In another development, police announced Tuesday that they had arrested two Israeli men for the murder six years ago of an Arab gas station attendant. They said the killing apparently was to avenge the death of a woman soldier.

The case drew attention because the arrests and political motives were suppressed for several weeks to avoid inflaming Palestinians already upset over a May 20 massacre in Israel.

On May 20, an Israeli man lined up Arab workers from the occupied Gaza Strip in Rishon Lezion near Tel Aviv and opened fire on them, killing seven and wounding 10.

The massacre set off widespread protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and in Arab towns in Israel.

Police said they imposed the news blackout while Palestinians observed 40 days of mourning for the seven victims.

Police identified the suspects in the 1984 murder as Eli Vanunu, 33, and Nir Ephroni, 27.

against Palestinian activists are arbitrary, often depending on the court, the mood of the judge and the general situation.

The Israeli human rights group Betsleem quoted attorneys as saying that military prosecutors had a "price list" for various offences, but that it changed with the political situation.

Betsleem quoted Israeli attorney Lea Izeniel as saying that sentences are especially harsh after any kind of attack on Israeli targets.

In a global survey released Wednesday, the London-based human rights organization Amnesty International said many Palestinian victims in the uprising died "in circumstances suggesting excessive use of force or deliberate killings."

About 25,000 Palestinians were detained, often without charge or trial, and by year's end over 13,000 were still jailed, Amnesty said.

It said thousands of Palestinians were beaten and kicked, sometimes for refusing to remove roadblocks and paint over anti-Israeli graffiti.

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## Poll shows Rabin most popular politician

TEL AVIV (AP) — A poll published Wednesday shows that former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin is Israel's most popular politician even as parliament prepares to debate his handling of the Palestinian uprising.

The poll indicated that Rabin, number two in the Labour Party, could defeat the leading figures in the rival right-wing Likud bloc, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, if direct elections were held.

It also showed that either Shamir or Sharon, who was defence minister during Israel's much-criticised invasion of Lebanon in 1982, could out-poll the current Labour party leader, Shimon Peres.

Fresh elections are not scheduled until 1992. Voters currently select slates of candidates, and it is unclear if election reform proposals calling for direct balloting will get parliament approval.

The survey results were published in the *Jerusalem Post* daily as left-and-right-wing parliament members pressed Wednesday for an investigation into Rabin's orders to soldiers to beat Palestinians as a not-control measure.

The orders, issued early in the 31-month uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, led to a number of serious beatings of Palestinians that sometimes resulted in deaths. Army officials later issued clarified orders saying beatings could be used only to stop disturbances and not for punishment.

The debate in parliament comes as Rabin has challenged Peres for leadership of the Labour Party.

Rabin planned to defend his policies at the parliament sessions, Israeli news reports said.

In the 31-month rebellion against Israeli rule, 724 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians. An additional 233 Palestinians have been slain by fellow Arabs, most for alleged collaboration with Israeli authorities. Forty-five Israelis have died.

The Jerusalem-born Rabin, 63, has gained popularity for his



Yitzhak Rabin

tough stance in dealing with the Palestinian uprising.

Rabin was military chief of staff during the 1967 war.

The poll was conducted between June 24 and July 3 among 1,200 Jewish adults by independent pollster Hanoch Smith.

It showed that in a direct election contest, Rabin would gather 50 per cent of the voters to Shamir's 33 per cent. The rest were undecided.

Against Sharon, the ballot would go 54 per cent to Rabin and 23 per cent to Sharon.

Shamir, however, would out-poll Peres 44 per cent to 29 per cent, and Sharon would beat him 37 per cent to 34 per cent, the poll showed.

The margin of error in the survey was three per cent, Smith said.

Later Wednesday, parliament rejected calls for a probe of Rabin's handling of the uprising.

The motion for a probe of Rabin's handling of the uprising was defeated by a vote of 65 in 16. Other members of the 120-seat parliament were absent from the floor.

One of the sponsors of the call for a probe, Michael Eitan of Shamir's Likud bloc, accused Rabin of failing to support army officers who have been charged with illegally beating Palestinians to death. Eitan claimed troops morale was also at stake.

"You personally gave these orders, why shouldn't you stand trial?" Eitan said. "Soldiers from now on will fear that all the orders they get will later be disproved."

Another sponsor, Yossi Sarid of the left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement, argued that "if the government found it necessary to establish an investigation into Sabra and Shatila, it should certainly do so now."

## Parliamentarians

(Continued from page 1)

fields," he said.

Murad was the only deputy to address the issue of conscripts in the army. He accused the national service of being the "school graduating the unemployed."

Islamist Deputy Deeb Anis agreed with the reasons cited by the government for unemployment, but offered more. He said that most projects in Jordan were being executed by foreign companies using foreign labour, that guest workers were harming Jordanians, that the authorities did not device any plan to stem the influx of new graduates," he said.

The National Bloc called on leading companies to expand their training programmes in order to accommodate and train graduates.

He said the greatest reason behind the increasing number of the unemployed was the "abundance of sins, during day and night, practiced by law and encouraged by the authorities."

He attacked hotels for entertainment programmes, the newspapers for advertising these programmes and Jordan Television for its shows.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL THE BRITISH CURRICULUM SCHOOL IN AMMAN Is now open for registrations for the September Term 1990

### AGE RANGE:

3 years to 14 years

### LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH REQUIRED

OTHER LANGUAGES OFFERED:

NATIONALITIES ACCEPTED:

### TEACHING STAFF:

### ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE:

### OTHER SPECIALIST TEACHERS:

### SPORTS:

### TRANSPORT:

### ENQUIRIES:

English

None

Arabic and French

All

All U.K. qualified and experienced within their speciality.

Specialist teachers ensure that non-English speakers make very rapid progress.

Physical Education; Music; Drama; Science; Maths; English etc.

The aim is to incorporate the best traditions of the British educational system with the needs of an international community.

Football; Basketball; Volleyball; Athletics; Gymnastics etc.

Buses are available to cover principal residential areas

The School is presently accepting registrations for the September term. The school will also be open for registrations every Monday in July and August between the hours of 9.00 and 12.00 noon. The new term begins on Sunday 9th September.

P.O. Box 2002  
Tel: 841070

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION  
Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
Programme review

15:45 ..... Children's programme  
Book of Adventures

15:48 ..... News in Arabic

15:50 ..... Local programme

15:55 ..... Programme review

15:58 ..... News in Arabic

15:59 ..... News in French

15:59 ..... News in Hebrew

15:59 ..... News in Arabic

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## ACC local government affairs ministers urge coordination

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministers responsible for local government affairs and the environment in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries ended a two-day meeting here Wednesday by endorsing recommendations for the implementation of resolutions providing for cooperation in local government and municipal affairs.

The four ministers agreed to set up a joint team of experts to conduct a study of existing legislations on local government to finalise its work in six months' time and to work in cooperation with the ACC general-secretariat, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul

Karim Al Dugmehi who attended the meetings.

Dugmehi said that the ministers also decided to create a joint committee at the level of ministry undersecretaries to propose ideas and plans for updating legislations on local government affairs through organising training seminars, conducting researches and studies and holding contacts with other countries in matters related to municipal and local affairs.

According to the minister, the meeting urged the concerned authorities to preserve and protect the cultural and historical heritage of cities and the Islamic architecture.

Special attention has been given to the condition of bedouin

tribes in the four-member ACC countries with the purpose of improving their living conditions.

"This would be done through conducting surveys, carrying out studies, allotting state owned land for housing projects, agricultural schemes and drilling artesian water wells for their animals," according to the minister.

He said that earth dams would be set up, agricultural roads built and health centres created for the benefit of the bedouin tribes in the four countries.

Dugmehi said that the four ministers also endorsed a draft agreement on ways to protect the environment from pollution, with special attention to be given to the coastlands, wildlife reserves

and to disposing of dangerous waste.

Upon concluding their meeting, the four ministers, representing Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and Egypt, were received by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and briefed him on the outcome of the meeting.

Badran paid tribute to the ministers' efforts and called for supporting joint action in municipal and local government affairs.

According to Dugmehi, the ministers agreed to convene a meeting of experts from ACC countries, next month in Cairo, to study ways for implementing the draft agreement on the environment.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### ACC central banks to meet

AMMAN (Petra) — The governors of the central banks of the four member states of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) will meet in Amman July 17 to discuss several financial and monetary issues in addition to a working paper presented to the ACC general secretariat about the establishment of a joint bank for the four ACC countries. The bank's envisaged role is to finance exports of the ACC member states, encourage financing of joint ventures and projects and serve as a regional clearing house. The governors will also discuss two working papers presented by the central banks of Jordan and Iraq on the establishment of a bank for inter-ACC payments.

#### Pakistani Islamic judge due Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — Pakistani Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Jamal Mohammad Khan arrives in Amman Friday on a several-day official visit to Jordan for talks with the ministers of Awqaf and Islamic affairs, justice, the chief Islamic justice and senior government officials and judges. The talks will focus on bolstering scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan in the fields of laws and regulations in force at Sharia and civil courts.

#### Senior army officers start course

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb Wednesday opened a training course for senior army officers at the Royal War College. Participants from Jordan, Iraq and Oman are taking part in the course. The opening ceremony was attended by chief of staff assistants, the Royal Air Force commander, the commander of the Royal War College, senior army officers, the Omani ambassador to Jordan and the Iraqi military attache in Amman.

#### Special operation course for women ends

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Major-General Fadel Ali Fuheid Wednesday attended the graduation ceremony of 12 police women from a special operations course. After demonstrations of skill by the graduates, Fuheid distributed diplomas to the graduates. The five-week course is organised for the first time for police women.

#### French warships end Aqaba visit

AQABA (J.T.) — Two French naval warships La Marne and Le Commandant Duguay left Aqaba port Wednesday morning following a five-day visit during which their 290 crew toured archaeological sites of the Nabatean city of Petra and Amman and visited Wadi Rum. The crew also played soccer and handball games with local teams during the visit. The warships were under the command of Admiral Pierre Bounot who commands the French fleet in the Indian Ocean.

#### Passport department extends office hours

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the General Passports and Civil Registration Department Issa Al Omari decided Wednesday to extend the working hours at several department offices. The department's offices of Amman, Zarqa, Jerusalem, Hebron and Nablus will be open to the public from 8 a.m. till 3:30 p.m., according the decision. The decision aims at facilitating procedures for citizens and reducing queues at the department's offices in the summer time when many Jordanian expatriates come home.

#### UKAZ elects executive committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — The general assembly of UKAZ Club (United Kingdom universities and institutions graduates) has elected a new executive committee last week in its extraordinary meeting held in Amman, following the resignation of its former committee. Hussam Shaath was elected president, Randa Taher vice-president, Said Khalifeh general secretary, Hasan Alaaedin treasurer and Dr. Medhat Abdalmalek MD, Riad Al Khouri and Ghazi Zreikat as members of the committee. Iyad Barghouthi and Ussama Barghouthi are reserve members.

#### CONDOLENCES

The editor and staff of the Jordan Times deeply mourn the passing of

**Shibli Jiries Khouri**

father of their friend and colleague **Shibli Khouri**. We wish to express our sorrow to the whole Khouri family, and may his soul rest in peace.

A memorial mass will be held for family and friends at the Orthodox Church in Abdali at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 1990.

## World Population Day observed Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan along with other nations of the world Wednesday observed "World Population Day" with several activities in Amman and other areas organised by the National Population Committee working in cooperation with the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) and the Jordanian Society for Family Planning and Protection Association.

Dr. Mohammad Abdul Hadi, the committee's secretary-general, said that week-long activities would be held in observance of the occasion and in a bid to raise the Jordanian public's awareness of population issues.

"The QAF's Nuzha centre is organising free-of-charge medical examination of local citizens and lectures about population matters in Jordan," Abdul Hadi said.

"Similar activities have been organised in Madaba, Karak, Tafileh, Maan, Mafrqa and other rural regions," Dr. Abdul Hadi added.

The observance of the "World Population Day" coincided with the conclusion of a two-day meeting by experts from various Arab

countries in which they discussed issues related to population activities, human resources and development planning.

The delegates reviewed 12 working papers covering these issues as well as economic blocs being formed in the Arab World.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) was represented at the meeting by Dr. Nabil Khouri who reviewed practical measures that could be adopted by Arab states to help boost cooperation in population activities and human and material resources.

The experts reviewed their own countries' population policies being implemented in cooperation with ILO teams and underlined the population activities and geographical distribution of people as basic factors in population strategies," Khouri said.

Deliberations, he said, demonstrated poor coordination in Arab countries between education and vocational training policies on the one hand and skilled labour requirements of each country on the other.

## BRITISH CITIZENS: RIGHT TO VOTE

The Representation of the People Act of 1989 has made important changes in who can vote in U.K. Parliamentary and European Parliamentary Elections.

1. Even if you left the U.K. as long ago as October 1970 you can still vote.
2. People who left the U.K. before they were old enough to be included on the Electoral Register may register as overseas electors.
3. You need no longer declare an intention to return to the U.K.

In order to qualify you need to fill in an application form by 10 October 1990.

To get a form and explanatory leaflet contact the Consular Section, British Embassy, P.O. Box 87, Abdoun.

\* 15 September 1990 in Northern Ireland.

#### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "The Productive Families" displaying embroideries, ceramics, woolen clothes and foodstuffs at Al Qadisiyya Community College.
- ★ The Islamic book exhibition which includes books on Islam, literature, psychology, sociology, education, philosophy, law and history at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art and craft exhibition by inter-schools at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

#### THEATRE

- ★ Arabic children's play entitled "Tales from My Grandmother's Chest" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 10:00 a.m.

#### Jordan Times

Tel:  
667171

## UNRWA deplores Israeli measures

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has expressed concern that the agency's attempt to salvage the school year for 2,263 pupils at five schools in Tulkarm camp, West Bank, has been prevented by the Israeli civil administration.

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الجريدة العربية المستقلة الأردنية

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## Good management needed

LACK of sufficient amounts of drinking water and the improper and ineffective water distribution system in Jordan is "the talk of the town" these days. It has to be, given the huge influx of unprecedented numbers of expatriates visiting the Kingdom this hot season, adding to our swelling numbers and need for water.

In expectation of a difficult situation in the summer, the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) last April announced a water distribution programme in the capital and its outlying regions and suburbs. But no sooner had the WAJ started implementing the programme, than it gave it up without giving the public any explanation or an alternative solution.

The Arabic dailies are nowadays littered with reports and columns about the water situation in the Kingdom; and officials were often quoted predicting imminent solutions, but nothing of the kind has yet materialised. Also in the press there are numerous complaints about the improper and unfair distribution of water supplies, with one district reportedly getting amounts of water far in excess of others, and one street where an embassy or a minister's residence is located, enjoying more than enough water for domestic use and for watering gardens at the expense of the thirsty areas of the capital.

It should be pointed out that the government has a direct responsibility to address the situation since indeed there are certain districts located within the perimeters of Amman which get supplies once every two weeks and in very limited quantities. The least it could do is to ensure a fair distribution of water, and to announce it for everybody to hear and read and even discuss in public.

It is a better idea still to propose that the government return to WAJ's original programme and ensure its implementation. We urge the government to introduce a system — followed in many other countries — by which unnecessary excessive use of water is discouraged or, in some cases, even banned. True, the government has big problems as far as water supplies are concerned, but it is equally true that a problem, where it exists, can only be tackled by good management, fair-mindedness and objectivity.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Parliament resumes its sessions Wednesday following a break during which it was hoped that the deputies took ample time to consider the question of unemployment which is on the agenda, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. Parliament is not only required to define the problem, but rather to find solutions because it is the duty of the legislative authority to put forth solutions to the executive authority to implement the paper noted. To determine the dimension of the unemployment problem in Jordan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday called at the Labour Ministry and saw figures and facts to prepare for the coming discussions, said the paper. According to the available figures, Jordan has more than 190,000 jobs which are now taken over by non-Jordanian workers, of whom only 40,000 are being employed legally, the paper pointed out. It said that one should not forget that responsibility of law violations does not fall on the workers, but rather on those who employ them. Let us hope that the Parliament deputies will provide the solutions for the problem and follow up the question of illegal employment of non-Jordanian workers and the employers exploitation of these workers, the paper added. It urged the deputies to close all gaps and loopholes in the present labour law, and to follow endeavours and efforts sincerely for the sake of ridding the country of this chronic problem.

Commenting on the unemployment problem, columnist Tareq Masarweh says one cannot blame the problem squarely on the government, but rather on the lack of private sector's investments in the Kingdom. All the government can do is provide incentives for the investors and a democratic atmosphere and stability and that the government has already made available, says the writer. Furthermore, the government has brought about stability to the Jordanian currency in a bid to attract foreign investors and create an opportune climate for investments, Masarweh points out. He regrets that rich class investments were either in building villas, and purchasing shares in successful companies, while leaving most of their capital abroad. The writer calls on the rich to make use of the present suitable atmosphere and invest in projects that can employ more job seekers in the Kingdom and so help end the unemployment problem. The government should not be asked to pour huge investments into schemes, since everyone realises the volume of the state's budget and the limited means of the country, says the writer. Although the government has certain responsibilities, he adds, the question of unemployment is far from being solved with a magic wand.

Sawt Al Shaab daily Wednesday tackled the question of Jewish immigration to Palestine from Ethiopia. It reminded its readers of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's plans to help the Jews gather in Addis Ababa prior to their transportation to occupied Palestine. The paper also reminded the readers of a call issued by the Ethiopian president to the African Summit for the establishment of peace in the Horn of Africa, while at the same time he plans to ship thousands of Jews to occupied Palestine to help Israel pursue expansionist goals in another part of the world. The paper said that the immigration danger can not be solved simply through diplomatic representations and protests, but rather through joint Arab action. It said the Arabs can start now by opening a serious dialogue among the confrontation states about the most proper course to be followed before it is too late.

## We know there are problems now give us realistic solutions

By Khaled Mahadin

The following column was translated from Al-Ra'i Arabic daily.

THE Eid Al Adha holiday offered me a very good chance for reading. I read five books and a large collection of articles, studies and reports that had been published in newspapers and magazines. I am in the habit of cutting out from publications what I believe is worth reading and wait for the suitable opportunity to read them.

I would like to refer in particular to my readings of Parliament members' speeches tackling the question of unemployment as published in the newspapers or released in photo copies to the press. It took me nearly three days to finish reading the whole stuff and I was overwhelmed with a mixed feeling of astonishment, anger, admiration, despair and indignation when the reading came to an end.

The tedious and long hours

the press has the power to hold the balance — which is still lacking — between the executive authority represented in the government and the legislative authority represented in the Lower House of Parliament. It is regrettable to say that the press has so far failed to assume its required role, which should help put an end to deputies' lengthy and tedious election — oriented speeches and the government's constant silence vis-a-vis these speeches in Parliament.

One missed reading the speech about the unemployment problem, I asked a Parliament member about the prime minister's reaction to them and he said: The prime minister's reply was silence and smoking.

Then I said to myself: Had I been in the prime minister's shoes, I would have done the same thing, simply because the prime minister was hoping to

receive solutions and proposals for solving the unemployment problem, but instead he was surprised to hear the majority of the deputies delivering statements and speeches without any proposals and not a single solution. Their speeches did not win the admiration of any one nor did they win Jordanian citizens' support.

We are facing an unemployment problem and this is a stark reality. But merely talking about it, can by no means change the facts. Most of the deputies were satisfied by talking about the problem and none of them thought that they were not revealing a secret, nor were they coming up with something of which the public was not aware.

One missed reading the speech about the unemployment problem, I asked a Parliament member about the prime minister's reaction to them and he said: The prime minister's reply was silence and smoking.

Indeed the deputies speeches manifested their desire to merely spurn the government. This could be acceptable in the absence of democracy, but it can by no means

be acceptable in an atmosphere of democracy which makes it incumbent on the deputies to bring forth solutions to the problem and not to merely announce its presence.

The parliament resumed discussions of the unemployment problem without offering any solutions, and those who spoke about it without coming up with any fresh information. Greetings go to the prime minister who resorted to silence and smoking. We hope that Parliament deputies will remember that they can decide on solutions and not merely talk about the problem.

Blaming the government used to be the favourable game of journalists, and it had yielded some fruit. But Parliament members are expected to attain much greater achievements rather than spurning the government. We really do not want to see many people departing off of democracy.

## Houston summit sees new era in Europe

HOUSTON (R) — The following is the political declaration issued on Tuesday by G-7 leaders at their summit meeting in Houston.

1. We, the leaders of our seven countries and the representatives of the European Community, salute the men and women around the world whose courage and wisdom have inspired and brought about the historic advances of democracy we have witnessed over the past year. As we enter the final decade of this century, which we intend should be a decade of democracy, we reiterate our commitment to support the strengthening of democracy, human rights, and economic reconstruction and development through market-oriented economies. We emphasise the important opportunity provided in this forum for representatives from Europe, Japan, and North America to discuss critical challenges of the coming years.

2. Europe is at the dawn of a new era. We welcome enthusiasm for the profound and historic changes sweeping the continent. The London declaration on a transformed North Atlantic alliance provides a new basis for cooperation among former adversaries in building a stable, secure, and peaceful Europe. We are determined to seize all opportunities to achieve a Europe whole and free and recognise the European Community's contribution to that effort. We applaud the important opportunity provided in this forum for representatives from Europe, Japan, and North America to discuss critical challenges of the coming years.

3. In Latin America, we welcome the re-establishment of freedom and democracy in Chile. We applaud the recent fair and free elections in Nicaragua, as well as progress on the path to peace through dialogue in El Salvador and Guatemala. We encourage the efforts of the Panamanian government to re-establish democracy and the rule of law. We note with satisfaction the positive evolution in Haiti. We hope that Cuba will take steps to join the democratic trend in the rest of Latin America.

4. While we applaud the reduction of ideological conflicts that have divided much of the world since the end of the second world war, we note with deep concern the re-emergence of intolerance affecting ethnic and religious groups. We agree that such intolerance can lead to conflicts, which can threaten fundamental human rights, as well as political and economic development.

5. We reaffirm our commitment to the fundamental principles we seek to realise in our own societies, and we underscore that political and economic freedoms are closely linked and mutually reinforcing. Each of us stands ready to help in practical ways those countries that choose freedom, through the provision of constitutional, legal, and economic know-how and through economic assistance, as appropriate.

In drawing from our different constitutional and historical experiences, we stand ready, individually and jointly in relevant fora, to:

— Assist in the drafting of laws, including bills of rights and civil, criminal, and economic framework laws.

— Advise in the fostering of independent media.

— Establish training programmes in government, management, and technical fields.

— Develop and expand people-to-people contacts and exchange programmes to help diffuse understanding and knowledge.

In the same spirit, the recent G-24 ministerial agreed to extend its assistance in Central and Eastern Europe in parallel with progress in political and economic reform.

We agree the challenge facing the industrialised democracies is to continue the effort already underway in Europe while expanding efforts to support political reform and economic development in other parts of the world. We call on our people and the people of other democracies to join in this great endeavour.

## Preoccupations with changes will not cloud Bonn's vision of Middle East

The following is the full text of the Speech delivered by Herr Helmut Schaefer, Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office, at a farewell luncheon in honour of His Excellency Mr. Fawaz Sharaf, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (Bonn July 10, 1990).

Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to welcome you all here today. We deeply regret that you, Excellency, are leaving Bonn. We have been very lucky that you have held the post of Jordanian Ambassador for an unusually long period, that is, since November 1981. It is a pleasure for me to tell you that the Federal Government has always highly appreciated your counsel in discussions with you. You have represented the interests of your country in a worthy manner and have at the same time followed and interpreted the developments in the Federal Republic of Germany with great understanding.

You will be leaving behind good friends in Germany.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you most sincerely for your friendly, positive attitude towards the process of German unification over the last few weeks and months.

Relations between our two countries have traditionally been excellent. This is due to a large extent to your efforts. I need only recall the many consultations at the highest level. Particularly the visit by President Richard von Weizsaecker to Amman in 1985 and the visits by King Hussein to Bonn in 1987 and 1988. Your good relations in both countries

and your wide experience played a major part in the success of these visits. Moreover, I recall with great pleasure my own last visit to Jordan almost two years ago, when I had the opportunity to speak with King Hussein as well as all senior government representatives, and to inform myself about the progress and problems of your country.

In addition to these political consultations, our economic cooperation, too, is an important element of German-Jordanian relations. We will make great efforts to maintain the present level and intensity of our aid during the coming years.

We admired the way in which your government developed and began implementing a programme of political and economic reform, leading to the free elections to the Jordanian parliament held in November 1989. Through these reforms, your country has made a major contribution to the process of democratisation in your region. I hope that your government will succeed in maintaining political and social peace in Jordan, despite the current problems due to the stalemate in the Middle East peace process.

Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For all of us, the question of

people in the Middle East is at the top of the political agenda. I am deeply concerned to see that tension is increasing in this area, with which we have many close links. Recent incidents have once again underlined the unacceptable nature of the status quo in the occupied territories in the long term. Those who seek to achieve political aims through violence, instead of by peaceful means must not be allowed to gain the upper hand. Rather, Israel must as soon as possible declare its willingness to enter into political dialogue, in which the Palestinians and their chosen representatives for the first time at the recent meeting of the General Committee in Dublin on June 18, 1990.

The Conference achieved concrete results in the areas of economic, social, cultural and cultural cooperation between our regions. We hope to welcome these results, for we have always considered the European-Arab dialogue to be an important forum for consultation and cooperation between Europeans and Arabs in all spheres. The resumption of this dialogue is a clear sign of our firm intention to develop and further extend our cooperation with our Arab friends.

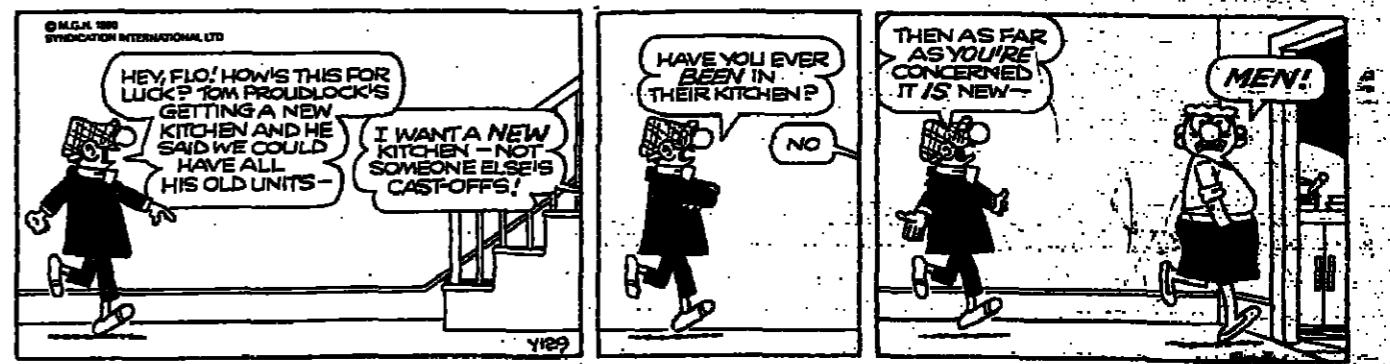
Excellency,

I hope that on leaving your post you will carry with you fond memories of your time in Bonn. I should like to thank you most warmly for your efforts in the service of Jordanian-German relations, and wish you all the very best for the future.

## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## Peanuts



# Jordan Times

## WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

July 12, 1990 **A**

### New film seeks to promote Jordan's movie industry

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A new movie is being shot on location in Jordan, the first of what its makers describe as five sketches that are going to be combined in one long movie. Each sketch deals with the economic and social life in Jordan.

The first movie is based on a poem written by Moussa Hawamdeh entitled *Abdul Khaleq*. "It deals with the phenomenon of multiple marriages, in an economically poor society, and the views of the Eastern men towards Eastern women," said Hassan Abu Ganimah, the movie's director.

"We still have a long way to go before we can compete with the Arab, especially the Egyptian, movie industry," Abu Ganimah said, referring to the lack of funds and necessary equipment for the movie.

"The budget for each sketch is JD 1,500 and we are using only one 35-millimetre camera," added Abu Ganimah, president of the Jordan Cine Club and an independent movie critique.

According to Abu Ganimah, some of the equipment was presented to the Jordan Cine Club by Radi Alkhas, director general of Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, in answer to an article published six months

ago in *Al Ra'i* by the poet Haidar Mahmoud wondering why these equipment are not given to the right people instead of remaining unused.

Moussa Hawamdeh, the creator of *Abdul Khaleq*, plays the lead in the movie. "I liked my character a lot because when I wrote the poem, I had many ideas and through my character I was able to portray them," Hawamdeh said.

The female roles are played by new actresses. Samia Assa'ad plays the role of *Abdul Khaleq's* first wife, who after serving him and raising his children, is divorced. "My aim was to show that women today are still facing this kind of abuse by

their husbands," Assa'ad said.

The other female actress, Fadwa Al Said, plays the role of the pretty young secretary whom *Abdul Khaleq* weds after divorcing his wife. Both actresses said they enjoyed acting but were reluctant to do it again. "Our society is still very judgmental in its acceptance to working women" said Said.

The second movie is entitled *Duflah*, directed by Hayel Ajlouni. In this movie the woman portrays both Jordan and the Arab World, and finds herself threatened by the present but fights relentlessly for a better future. Filming for this movie will start in a few days.

The third movie *The Last Candle*, is written and directed by Ramadan Al Dawashqeh. It is a very symbolic movie, that takes place in a movie theatre. During the show the electricity goes off and one candle is used to light the theatre. While people await the electricity, to go back on, they start sharing stories about their lives that shows the contradiction between light and darkness.

"It is a very symbolic movie because when the electricity goes off in the theatre, it is as if hope in the world is also gone," Dawashqeh said.

The fourth movie, *I Want to Smile*, is directed by Bilal Mirzah. It is a story of a Jordanian who finds himself unable to smile, because of the seriousness of the society he lives in. He decides to



Director Hassan Abu Ganimah (third from left) checks the lighting before shooting a scene from *Abdul Khaleq*

teach his son the importance and the need to smile but unfortunately he approaches the subject with seriousness.

The fifth movie, *Cemetery*, is written by Moussa Al Hawamdeh. It is a story of a young man who wants to bury his father but does not have enough money, so he decides to afford to work in the cemetery in order to save some money and get his father's body out of the hospital.

The irony in this movie is that the young man's salary per day is less than the daily cost of the hospital's refrigerator where his father's body is kept and that is why he cannot afford to get it out.

Each of the five sketches will be around twenty minutes long. "We hope that we will finish filming by the end of this year," Abu Ganimah said. The whole movie will be shown in theatres throughout Jordan and the Arab World in an effort "to promote the Jordanian movie industry," he added.



Abu Ganimah and his team shoot a scene in downtown Amman

### Poles are top of the bill

By John Rice  
The Associated Press

AMMAN — The lights of Damascus twinkled through the windows of a French nightclub. British businessmen sipped Danish beer poured by Palestinian waiters. A singer warbled her way through *Georgia On My Mind*.

The performer was polish, of course.

Poles may be struggling with economic troubles at home, but in the Middle East, musicians from the Eastern European nation are in high demand.

They seem to be everywhere. Playing Scottish music at a Burns Night dinner in Jordan; hammering out rock

avourites in Dubai saloons; playing Chopin in Syrian piano bars.

In a Kuwait hotel steakhouse, a Polish band romped through an American classic: "The stars at night are shining bright, deep in the heart of Texas."

The singer's accent was closer to Warsaw than west Texas. But the fiddle player could toss a bow with the best.

Polish entertainers have acquired the sort of reputation for low cost and high quality that Polish industry is striving to win.

"We're good ... and we're not too expensive," said Beata Lewtak, hired to sing with a Jordanian band at an Amman hotel.

Robert Lillis, assistant

general manager of Amman's Intercontinental Hotel, agreed.

"It's cheaper for us to hire Poles than to hire other European or American musicians," he said.

"We know what we're getting with the Poles," he said. "The standard of music and the range of music are excellent."

This victory on the musical free market is a legacy of Poland's crumbling Socialist system. Lewtak and most other Polish musicians are graduates of special music academies, which give intensive training grounded in the classics.

Many musicians began playing jazz and rock outside class, often to the disapproval

of their elders.

"In the '60s, jazz was forbidden in Poland," said Tadeusz Toczyński, who played recently at the Meridien Hotel in Damascus.

But now schools have begun to teach the new styles.

"I like jazz best," said Tadeusz Kasprak, whose band played at Amman's International. "But when I'm playing with our electronic automatic drummer, it's impossible."

Many touring bands find themselves playing everything from light classical music to disco to regional songs.

"This kind of job is the most difficult because you have to be good enough to play any kind of music they want," said Toczyński from

Krakow.

"In Poland you can find a lot of good musicians, for many years, the main reason that Polish musicians went out was to make the money to buy electronics instruments," Toczyński said.

Kasprak and his band rely heavily on costly foreign instruments such as keyboards and synthesizers. He has travelled off and on for almost a decade.

"Nobody in Poland can afford such equipment," said Kasprak, who plays guitar, trombone and piano.

Kasprak, his vocalist wife Anna and Hetboardist Andrey Niescior, all from Lublin, played in Finland, Hungary and Yugoslavia before coming to Jordan.

But many musicians said they were worried by hardships at home. Poland ended 40 years of Communist Party rule last year, the new government has implemented market reforms that have fuelled unemployment and inflation.

"What has changed for us is only the prices," Lewtak said. "Before, I had a lot of money. Now, I have nothing."

She also said working abroad brought its own hardships.

"I have my husband, my daughter at home. All the time I think of them," she said.

"In time," Kasprak said, "maybe work will be good for us in Poland."

### World's smallest theatre is back on the road

By Giles Elgood  
Renter

LONDON — Pulling in a full house is never a problem for Marcel Steiner, the owner, producer and star of "the smallest theatre in the world." It holds an audience of two.

The theatre, about the size of a large wardrobe, is mounted on a sidecar attached to a temperamental Russian motorbike.

Steiner once simulated the storm scene in *The Tempest* by reviving up the motorbike and driving it round in circles with the audience hanging on for dear life inside.

It was forced off the road

two years ago by financial problems and a cracked drive shaft but thanks to a sponsorship deal and a mechanical overhaul, Steiner is back next month with an epic production called *The Private Lives of Henry VIII*.

The inside of the theatre is decorated with marble patterned wallpaper and the outside has classical columns and doors marked "box office," "stalls," "stage door" and "fire exit."

It may be small but Steiner is adamant that his audience will get their money's worth.

"We do it properly, the whole bit. Lots of scenery, plenty of props, sound and

lighting effects," he said in an interview.

His new production is loosely based on the 1933 Alexander Korda film *The Private Lives of Henry VIII*. It will be staged at the southern English seaside resort of Margate, where his new Dutch sponsors own the town funfair.

Steiner is taking Charles Laughton's role as the much-married Tudor monarch and two other members of the cast, Geraldine and Maureen Marsh, will each play three of his six wives.

Steiner is experimenting with an inflatable costume which can be pumped up to

show Henry's increasing obesity.

"People think I'm eccentric," he said. "But I'm just interested in comic concepts."

"The smallest theatre in the world" dates back about 20 years.

Steiner fell in love with and bought an ancient motorbike with a huge sidecar attached.

A fellow actor said: "That could build a theatre in that thing." A week later it was finished.

"It was only meant as a joke originally but it just kept going. It became an institution."

Over the years Steiner has

produced a string of classic

30-minute shows including *The Guns of Navarone*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Cinderella*.

"We nearly did *West Side Story*, but I'm not a good enough singer," he said.

*The Tempest* was staged in the car park of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon while the full version of the play was being put on inside.

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joke originally but it just kept going. It became an institution."

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**BOYCOTTS AND BOUQUETS:** The residence and the garden were transformed into something of a Rambo theatre and a cowboy ranch for the occasion. The outgoing U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, Roscoe Suddarth, wore a big (American?) hat to receive his guests for a July 9 reception held to mark American Independence Day and to say goodbye to his friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Suddarth found a stool to sit on while several hundred invitees filed past her and her decorated husband heading directly towards the hot dog stand at the other end of the garden. The long guest list included all kinds of people from many walks of life. But it was not exactly strong either. Many Jordanian officials who knew and liked the U.S. envoy and his charming wife would have gone to the reception to say "goodby" and "happy independence," but there were some who were simply unable to attend, and yet others who simply could not bring themselves to turn up under the current circumstances of strained Arab-U.S. relations. Doubtless Mr. and Mrs. Suddarth would have liked everybody to show up, the extra congestion notwithstanding of course. Be that as it may, the ambassador has other concerns that should keep his mind off the area's troubles for a while. He has been appointed a "foreign service inspector" — not only for the Middle East but with world wide responsibility — starting somewhere in Latin America this fall. Politics apart, we wish the couple good health and good luck.

\* \* \*

**OVERHEARD:** At a garden reception this past week, an ex-minister, an ambassador, a senior official of an Islamic foundation and a journalist stood together for a chat. The subject was the Jordan Times' editorial (July 9) which launched a stinging attack against calls for cancelling the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts. "I informed at least five people about it (the editorial)," said the official from the Islamic foundation. "It's strange how often I'm getting to give out the name of the Jordan Times as my source of information," he told the others, amongst them the Jordan Times journalist. "I've just read (the editorial) out loud to somebody over the phone," said the ambassador. "You guys are doing wonders with this kind of material." The former minister concurred. "I can't believe that some ministers don't include the Jordan Times in their media digest," he said. "It seems their lacking diet of the press is also affecting their performance," he went on... citing examples.

\* \* \*

**FOOTBALL SCHIZOPHRENIA:** Now that the 1990 Mondial (World Cup) is over, some of us can take comfort from the fact and hope to go back to normal life again. Still, even many of those who were terribly enjoying the tournament feel happy today that it is all over, simply because they do not have to contend with Jordan Television's coverage of the event any more. It all goes back to the semi-finals when JTV would interrupt its live coverage of the matches in order to present the 8 o'clock news on time. Most viewers would immediately switch to Syrian or Israeli television stations to continue watching the aired match, missing the 8 o'clock broadcast in the process. They did not like what they had to do at all, but JTV's ineptness was simply too overpowering for their taste. "Why couldn't they wait until after the match had ended," you heard them screaming and complaining to no avail. "At least we all can now watch our favourite JTV news programme without being too schizophrenic."

\* \* \*

**FEASTS AND FETES:** A couple of days ago, one of Jordan's Arabic dailies published a front page story of a family from Irbid donating the cost of their son's wedding dinner to the Palestinian intifada. The amount was JD 1600. Earlier, an Islamist Member of Parliament (Laith Shbeilat) married off his daughter to the son of an Upper House of Parliament member (Akram Zuaier). The two families too decided to do away with the wedding festivities, and donate the saved expenses towards support of the uprising. Although the Shbeilat-Zuaier fete was original and much talked about in many of Amman's circles, Iraqi — rather than Jordanian — newspapers were the first to publish it. Better late than never. Now, stories of this importance can get space in our newspapers, and the good deeds of the past may not be forgotten.

\* \* \*

**REPRINTED FOR FREE:** A full-time Arab writer and author, with excellent command of Arabic and experience with writing and reading poetry is wanted to write a book about a renowned and well known Arab Personality. The author must be able to live with this personality for a year and travel to Europe, the United States and any Arab country. Please send all information and qualifications to the following address: Jordan - Amman - P.O. Box 926231 (within a week). All applications will be handled with utmost secrecy. — An ad in the Al Ra'i daily newspaper.

Naseem Marad



# Dietetics in the year 2000

By Jean Chabrier

**PARIS** — Since the beginning of the century, everything has changed. First of all, not only do we no longer eat in the same way, but we do not eat quite the same food as at the beginning of this century. Secondly, food-processing has become a real industry which is no longer limited to sharing out the produce according to production and needs, but which modifies, transforms, packages and ensures its preservation, etc. This implies the appearance of numerous technologies, from the chemical industry to the use of cold.

But all this is going to change even more and the present will very quickly become the past. Research laboratories are making keen efforts in all areas of nutrition with the imperative law of "Flavour, Health, Safety and Service." That is what dietetics will be in the year 2,000.

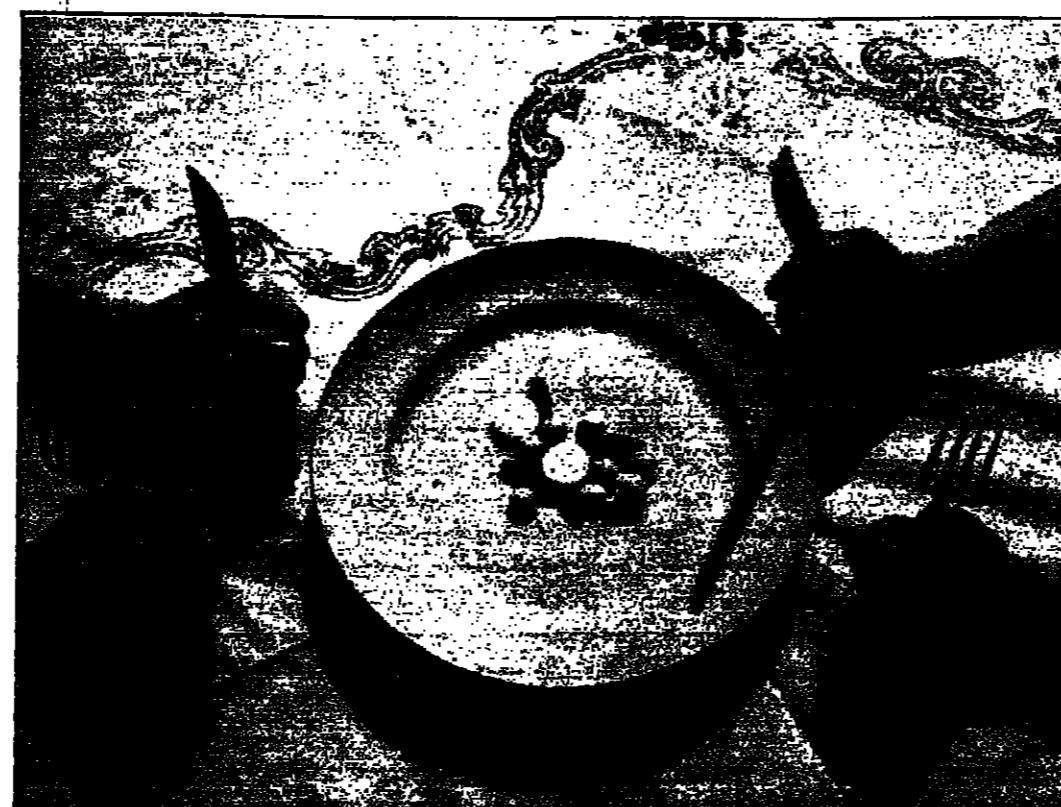
A few figures may fill one with wonder. It is estimated that 50 per cent of the products which will be eaten in ten years, do not yet exist as, at the present time, they are either at the study stage or in the premanufacturing stage. The ratio of processed foods continues to increase. From 30 per cent 40 years ago, it amounts to 80 per cent nowadays. The time spent in the kitchen which, at that time, used to be more than 3 hours a day, is no more than 20 to 30 minutes today. The extraordinary boom in frozen foods or other ready-to-use products accounts for 70 per cent of consumption while, at the same time, spending on food has fallen from 33 to 24 per

cent.

Keeping the Flavour ... and saving the taste. All industrial food processing makes it rather tasteless and in order to compensate for this, artificial flavouring is used. The turnover in this sector has increased five-fold in 15 years and is to double in the five coming years. An example can be given with vanilla flavouring. Natural vanilla costs 17,000 French francs a kilo whereas aroma made from wood waste has a flavouring power ten times higher and only costs 50 francs.

Biotechnology has reached the stage where it has "flavour" banks not only varying according to the species, but also according to the variety and the qualities. This area is further completed by taste "keepers", able to trap aromas which then resist various industrial modifications and even cooking (French National Agronomic Research Institute: INRA), while Societe Roquette, world leader in polyols (non-glucose sweeteners), provides betacyclocleotriplets to various firms. Together with SANOFI, it is working on a cholesterol-free butter which still keeps its taste. Many other astonishing examples could be given.

This butter leads us to the sector of Health. The last decade has seen the arrival of low-fat and sugar-free products. They account for 20 per cent of the present market. It is certain that food tomorrow will be better suited to the needs of each group of individuals: children, sick people, active and inactive people, those practising sports and those who lead a sedentary life, etc., but also according to



The future is dark for the gastronomes.

the needs of each individual and even the climate. The family dish will be replaced by individual dishes.

Safety is also a very important matter. Throughout the food production line, impurities might enter the food and contamination occur. The major culprit is *Salmonella* Enteritidis, one of the 2,300 species of this family of bacteria. The number of cases a year in France is estimated at nearly 100,000. In 42 per cent of cases, these incidents are due to the cold storage not being respected 38 per cent to there being too long a time lapse between the time of defrosting and the time of consumption.

But fresh produce is not free from such mishaps. *Listeria* and *Yersinia* are able to develop between 4 and 10°C. That is to say the usual temperature of refrigerators. In addition to the strictest sterilisation recommendations, wide-scale sterilisation by gamma rays and/or the use of col-

oured markers (as for surgical materials) are being considered in order to guarantee the good preservation of products.

On the subject of service, the very mention of standard, stereotyped food, in a country famous for its gastronomy, obviously makes the French shudder with horror. Thus relations between haute cuisine and the food-processing industry continue to grow. Fifty of the greatest chefs have thus become collaborators of laboratories. They taste the new industrial varieties prepared with vegetables, fruit, fish and meat which have withstood the assault of laboratories. Their verdict is final.

Better still, Joel Reubuchon, in whose restaurant tables have to be booked three months ahead, does the opposite. He prepares a dish using his know-how and sends it to the Fleur Michon laboratories. There, technicians and nutritionists try to recreate the same dish following in-

dustrial constraints and then send it back to the creator who gives, or refuses to give, the go-ahead. Several trips back and forth are required (at least six months), but it has led to the creation of about twenty new prefabricated dishes in 10 to 25,000 samples. For the time being, this line is reserved for restaurant owners.

At the same time, the "Jacquet" company has managed to produce bread (the oldest cooked dish in the world), which stays perfectly fresh for 4 or 5 months, thanks to special packaging, while the "Epigrill" company, which had already made crumbless bread for astronauts, has

managed to create bread

which stays fresh from the organoleptic point of view, for about fifty days, and microbiologically intact for a year, thanks to a packaging process, but also to the bread-making process.

There will soon be new foods on our plates — L'Actualite en France.

## Tobacco blamed for 3,800 deaths among non-smokers

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A study by the U.S. Environmental Agency says second-hand tobacco smoke is a human carcinogen, causing about 3,800 lung cancer deaths annually among the nation's non-smokers.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study, which is in draft form and has not been evaluated by the agency's independent science advisers, was quickly criticised by a tobacco industry association.

A statement from the Tobacco Institute said an analysis by the agency's Scientific Advisory Board "is likely

to significantly undermine the very basis of this draft."

The study, prepared by the agency's office of research and development, said an evaluation of studies about environmental tobacco smoke, which originates from burning cigarettes, shows that it causes cancer among non-smokers.

This conclusion, the study said, "is based on a total weight of evidence."

The evidence includes what the report calls "detectable association at environmental exposure levels" between cancer and non-smoking family members who live with a smoker.

Although only 30 per cent of the U.S. adult population smokes, the study said, there are detectable levels of cotinine, a metabolic product of nicotine, detected in the

blood, saliva and urine of 50 per cent to 75 per cent of non-smokers tested.

The estimate of 3,800 lung cancer deaths annually among the nation's non-smokers, the study said, includes approximately 1,750 females who have never smoked, 800 males who have never smoked and 1,250 former smokers of both sexes.

About 130,000 people will die of lung cancer every year, 85 per cent as a direct result of smoking. Smoking causes an estimated 390,000 premature deaths a year when the emphysema and cardiovascular deaths are added to the

lung cancer total, according to government estimates.

The Environmental Agency's report said studies also have linked cigarette smoking in the home with increased respiratory disorders among children, particularly infants.

The Tobacco Institute said the draft report has "technical problems and inadequacies" and suffers from "the lack of scientific support."

"The statistical manipulations represented by the EPA draft risk assessment constitute, at the very best, speculation without an adequate scientific foundation," the Tobacco Institute statement said.

**CHICAGO (AP)** — A dramatic increase in smoking worldwide has been fostered by U.S. trade policies that ignore the health problems associated with tobacco, according to a report.

"Globally, increasing tobacco use is responsible for almost 2.5 million excessive or premature deaths per year —

almost 5 per cent of all deaths," said the report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

U.S. trade policy is perpetuating the problem by trying to develop overseas — especially in Asia — a market that is drying up at home, said the report by the Medical Association's Council on Scientific

Affairs.

The report's recommendations included urging the nation's largest group of physicians to lobby the U.S. government to alter tobacco trade policies, and imposing foreign-language health warning labels on cigarette packages for export.

A bill in Congress and sup-

ported by the Medical Association would require such labeling.

The U.S. Cigarette Export Association, which represents manufacturers responsible for 98 per cent of cigarette exports, contends the United States has no business imposing its restrictions on other countries.

"There's no evidence that consumption trends (overseas) are being affected by whether or not the U.S. product is there," Copenhaver said.

Association counsel Andrew Copenhaver said this country is not responsible for the popularity of smoking overseas.

"There's no evidence that consumption trends (overseas) are being affected by whether or not the U.S. product is there," Copenhaver said.

With the prospect of an end

to their anguish now on the way, sufferers are unlikely to resort to the solution adopted by the Texan gunfighter, John Wesley Hardin.

This legendary Wild West figure is said to have been so enraged by the snoring of the occupant of an adjoining hotel room that he emptied his revolver through the wall. This ensured silence — but cost the life of the noisy sleeper —

Lion Features.

will is the claim by Clark and his research team to have found a certain cure for this distressing, human imperfection.

American football players, the Colorado team is unforthcoming about the device because the university is widely patenting it.

Until it is more readily available, it may bring some comfort to those subjected to snoring that the condition also affects the snorer. They have Clark's assurance on this.

"Not only does this appliance totally eliminate snoring", he says, "but we found that our patients were more alert and attentive to the mornings after wearing it."

A colleague, Dr. John Rad-

dy, confirmed that a snorer

Tests on ten married pa-

rents had shown the device to be completely effective in stopping ordinary snoring. It had also proved 90 per cent successful in preventing the condition known as sleep Apnoea — serious snoring when breathing stops for some time.

The scientists quote the grateful partners of the seven men and three women "guinea-pigs" in the trials as saying that the plastic mouthpiece had enabled them to enjoy their first night of sound sleep for a long time.

Apart from revealing that it

is similar to that used by

usually did not get a sound rest. "They are often tired, worn-out and consequently less effective during the following day," he said.

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Lion Features.

## Another cold war ends

### No cure after 44 years of trying

By Jessica Baldwin

The Associated Press

**LONDON** — Another cold war has ended — not with a bang but a sniffle.

The Common Cold Research Centre has closed, having conceded defeat after 44 years in which thousands of noses were bombarded with viruses in the quest for a cure for the common cold.

Administrator Arthur Amos insists that the 18,000 volunteers who passed through the hospital near Salisbury, 128 kilometres west of London, did not suffer in vain.

"Going back in time, we

used to think there was only

one cold virus. Now we know

there are nearly 200, so there

is no chance of finding a vac-

cine," Amos said. "We've

been trying to find a com-

pound that acts on a family of

viruses, but we've had no

luck."

Some of the centre's dis-

coveries cannot be explained,

Amos said. Why, for exam-

ple, did one-third of volun-

teers never show any signs of

a cold while the others, ex-

posed to the same virus,

coughed, sneezed and felt

miserable.

"Blood tests at the begin-

ning of the trial and at the end

often show changes in anti-

body levels, which means

even if it didn't seem like they

have a cold, they have a sub-

clinical cold," Amos said.

The volunteers received no

medication, Amos said, un-

less they were in extreme dis-

comfort, in which case they

got Aspirin.

The research centre was

housed in the Harvard Hos-

pit, so named because it was

sent to Britain by the Harvard

Medical School in 1940.

During World War II, it

was an American military

field hospital, and in 1946, it

was turned over to the com-

mon cold project.

The volunteers ranged in

age from 18 to 50, and some

were repeat participants. One

couple met there and returned

the following year for their

honeymoon. One man went

through the 10-day quarant

ine programme 26 times,

but Amos said he was "a

rather odd sort of person."

Many participants came to

## Musical Bernadette portrays an act of faith

By David Brough  
Reuter

LONDON — *Faith* is what the latest musical to open in London's West End is all about.

The faith of a French peasant girl who in 1858 saw a vision of the Virgin Mary at Lourdes is the inspiration for the musical *Bernadette*.

Its opening at the vast Dominion Theatre is itself an act of faith by its producers, all novices in the field, and by members of the public who put up about half the money. Billed as the "people's musical" it won a standing ovation from a star-studded audience on its first night.

Initial press reviews, however, were scathing. "Oh dear," said the London Times. The backers "should have gambled their hard-earned loot on something surer of success, like the United Arab Emirates winning the World Cup."

Said the critic of the Daily Express: "Seeing *Bernadette* is certainly cheaper than a visit to Lourdes. It may also cure people of ever going to the theatre again."

The Daily Mail commented: "It will take a miracle on the scale of the loaves and fishes to turn *Bernadette* into a long-running blockbuster..."

The London Evening Standard described it as "this marzipan musical with its sack-cloth and ashes filling."

Producer William Z. Fonfe, who once ran a transport company for the film industry, decided to stage the show after seeing it produced by its husband-and-wife writing team, music teachers Maureen and Gwyn Hughes, at a provincial theatre.

"I loved the music," said Fonfe, who is using unknown performers instead of stars and his wife's dressmaker to make the costumes.

"I don't believe that 'stars' make or break a show in the West End," Fonfe, who is producing a theatrical show for the first time, told Reuters before the first night.

"As soon as you have a star, it becomes a one-man show. A show becomes riskier by pinning it on one name."

So newcomer Natalie Wright, a 16-year-old head

girl at London's Italia Conti Drama School, was cast as Bernadette, the 19th century peasant called an idiot and liar and threatened with jail when she said she had seen a vision of the Virgin Mary.

But rich backers refused to invest money in the show because it was written and produced by unknowns. The Hughes and Fonfe staked everything they owned to get the show into the West End, and appealed to the public for the rest.

The production company received £650,000 (\$1 million) from small investors, in amounts ranging from several thousand pounds to £1,000 (\$1,600) from one old lady who backed the show instead of buying a new kitchen.

Fonfe said he had raised the rest of the £1.25 million (\$2 million) production cost, including re-mortgaging his home.

"I got the idea to invite the public after (Prime Minister Margaret) Thatcher's government sold shares in water," he said.

Fonfe said some of the small band of rich investors who usually back West End productions may have steered



Natalie Wright plays the heroine in *Bernadette*

investments, members of the public who contributed had the right to attend rehearsals, and many of them were in the first-night audience.

Fonfe said some of the small band of rich investors who usually back West End productions may have steered

clear of *Bernadette* because of its religious theme. "Piety is not very exciting or very up-market," he said.

Yet the show has no heavy religious content. "What we're trying to do is put on a great West End show, not a village musical," said Fonfe.

## Barbara Taylor Bradford

### From blank wall to blockbuster

By Paul Majendie  
Reuter

DUBLIN — Barbara Taylor Bradford faces a blank wall in her Manhattan apartment for 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

It may take years but at the end of long, hard work she emerges with another blockbuster saga to maintain her position as one of the world's richest and most successful novelists.

She sold her first story to a children's magazine at the age of 12 for 50 pence and celebrated by buying her mother a green vase at Woolworths.

Years later, her publisher paid her an \$8 million advance after her first novel *A Woman of Substance*, sold 12 million copies worldwide.

In Dublin this month to publicise her latest book *The Women in His Life*, Bradford recalled in an interview how her first four attempts at fiction never got off the ground.

"I would get halfway and then feel 'If I am bored, the reader will be bored,'" she said. So she re-examined her approach and came up with *A Woman of Substance*.

Elegant and carefully coiffured, Bradford is a forthright and approachable figure who started out as a 16-year-old club reporter in her native Yorkshire in northern England.

It was sort of lucky. It came out in 1979 at a time when women were just beginning to be independent and emancipated," she said.

Novel writing is a rigid routine. "I sit at a typewriter

staring at a blank wall. I have a roll of film in my head which is my imagination."

At her desk by 6.30 in the morning, she puts in a 12-hour day, breaking only to walk the dog. "It is hard work but it is wonderful when you are inspired and it is really flowing."

"Graham Greene said that character is plot. That clarifies the whole art of fiction-writing to me. It is the character of the main protagonist that



Barbara Taylor Bradford

would be about a woman who became powerful and a woman of substance. I looked at it on paper and thought that it is a damn good title," she said.

The book was a phenomenal success and ranked among the fastest-selling novels in the world. It launched a trilogy of bestsellers and became a successful television mini-series starring Deborah Kerr.

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"Graham Greene said that character is plot. That clarifies the whole art of fiction-writing to me. It is the character of the main protagonist that

shapes and animates the plot."

She explains her success saying: "I put a lot of emotion on paper; the characters are very believable and the reader gets involved and cares about them."

Her books have sold 25 million copies in English language editions alone. She is published in 32 countries and 18 languages, the latest is Serbo-Croat.

She would bridle at any suggestion that her books could be bracketed with "heaving bosom" romantic novels or raunchy sex sagas.

"There is not a lot of sex in them. I prefer to call them love scenes. I am really writing about people's emotions. Everyone knows what goes on in bed."

She was about to embark on a new book about a woman founding a shipping empire when she was sent three books wanting quotes from her to use in advertisements. "All of them were *A Woman of Substance*, in different guises," she said.

So instead she wrote *The Women in His Life*, about a billionaire tycoon Maximilian West. Much of it is set in the war-torn Berlin of the 1930s and 1940s.

She went to East Berlin in 1987 to research the book. "It was like being in a ghost town. Everyone walked like a robot with eyes fixed ahead. I kept saying this wall has to come down. You cannot shack down people."

"I was going to end the book where I started (in the 1930s), but then history intervened to bring it full circle. Who knew it would happen? History really played into my hands." It ends with the dismantling of the Berlin Wall last year.

## MacLaine returns to stage show

By Patricia Zengerle  
Reuter

PITTSBURGH — Shirley MacLaine's spiritual beliefs may have helped her see into past lives and traverse other-worldly planes, but her recovery from a serious knee injury has a more down to earth reason — a love of performing.

"I'm never going to be away from it," said the red-headed actress, dancer and writer.

MacLaine was in Pittsburgh for a six-day run of *Out There Tonight*, her song and dance show that was put on hold at the end of April when the 56-year-old performer fell during rehearsal and tore a ligament in her right leg.

Forced to cancel some early dates on a planned international tour, MacLaine underwent surgery and intensive rehabilitation during May.

While she pronounced herself fit for the show's reopening in June, the injury forced her to tone down her performing just a bit.

"I'm not going to jump up in the air and come down into splits anymore," she said, "but I should have changed that before I was injured."

In the show MacLaine per-

forms both original material and song and dance routines from the musicals *Sweet Charity*, and *Gypsy*, as well as tributes to some favourite choreographers.

MacLaine will take the show to Atlantic City, New Jersey, Houston, Toronto, Vancouver — "I'm half Canadian, so I have to go up there and play for all my relatives" — Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Japan before finishing in November.

She seemed invigorated rather than intimidated by performing live, even though she has been more visible as a film actress, with close to 40 motion pictures to her credit.

"Have you ever been on a movie set? It is truly boring for someone who is really fast-paced and fast-thinking," the Academy Award winner said before her show's opening.

"I'm tired by four o'clock because I haven't done anything," she said of making movies.

"This keeps me feeling alive."

In recent films MacLaine has won critical accolades for playing eccentric characters. In fact, she said, she has had no trouble making the transition from laying younger



Shirley MacLaine

women to what are diplomatically called "character" roles.

"I never was a beauty, never thought of myself as a beauty, so there was nothing for me to lose when my youth was gone," said the actress, who has worked steadily since

she started dancing in New York Chorus Lines while still in high school.

"I was a character actress from the time I began, really."

MacLaine played a crotch-

ty character in the 1989 female ensemble movie *Steel Magnolias*, and an ageing perfectionist piano teacher in 1988's *Madame Sousatzka*.

After five Academy Award nominations, she won the best actress Oscar in 1984 for playing a frustrated Texas widow in the film *Terms of Endearment*.

MacLaine said she thinks parts like *On Your Mark* reflect her personality. "There's a part of me that's very curmudgeon-like and kind of cynically witty," she said.

After she wraps up the *Out There Tonight* tour, MacLaine said she will start shooting her next movie, about the late silent film star and writer Louise Brooks.

Despite the belief in reincarnation, positive thinking and other aspects of spiritualism featured in her four best-selling books, MacLaine said, she does not look far into the future.

"Because it always gets screwed up," explained the often blunt-spoken actress.

"If I plan too far ahead, it's like some giant hand moves in and says — that's not the way it's going to be."

TEHRAN (R) — An Iranian master carpet weaver, who says one of his works hangs in the Louvre Museum in Paris, prefers displaying his carpets to profiting from them.

Rassam Arbabzadeh recently completed what he regards as his best work — a three by three metre carpet showing Persia's epic poet Ferdowsi at the court of Sultan Mahmud about 1,000 years ago.

The 75-year-old, slightly-built artist, who has spent 60 years weaving and designing carpets, gives his most precious works to his daughters.

He said recently in his

apartment in Tehran that he was more interested in displaying carpets than selling them.

The classic Persian carpet is woven on a loom, made up of thousands, often millions of separate threads, each strand knotted on to the base to form intricate traditional patterns of flowers, birds, and abstract designs. It is a thing of beauty.

The *Ferdowsi* carpet took nine years to make and includes 870 different-hued threads, all dyed by Arbabzadeh himself from natural materials. It is made up of 21 million knots.

But the statistics cannot describe the exceptional beauty of the carpet.

The first impression is that the figures in the design seem almost alive. The sultan sitting on his throne in the luxury of his palace, with his courtiers around, listens to *Ferdowsi* reading from his epic poem, the *Shahnameh*. The sultan's clothes and throne sparkle and glisten in the light.

The viewer feels impelled to go closer, to look into the carpet and understand how Arbabzadeh has achieved his effect.



Maurice Bejart

his favourite theme: art being the instrument of communication between nations — the tie that binds disparate cultures and promotes understanding and peaceful relations.

His vitality is remarkable for a man reaching 60. "The energy I feel and my inspiration spring from what others would call the source of life: life, even when it's dreary, suggests a wealth of ideas, and of course music plays a crucial role."

"Even to appreciate the music of the great romantics — Bach, Mozart — from Western Europe, it's impossible to have listened to music from other cultures."

"Today I am working with music I gleaned from several Arab nations, but I want to keep the original arrangements: the beauty of the pieces is such that nothing should be altered."

Underlying the differences, the language remains the same, he insists, going back to

"The tide might sound a bit morbid, but isn't it the best way to go — fast?" he asks with a dazzling smile. The visitor can only agree, thinking: How could death be so bold as to try to silence for ever a life so full of dreams, plans, ambitions and curiosity? The motto of the Roman Emperor Titus comes to mind: "A day when I learned nothing is a day that's wasted" — *World News Link*.

## King of ballet draws from many cultures

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO — Carelessly elegant in casual attire, the innocence of his piercing blue eyes contrasting with the Mephistophelean look of his pointed beard, Maurice Bejart relaxes in his Cairo hotel, soaking up the atmosphere.

With his *Ballet de Lausanne*, the world-famous choreographer was preparing a major production called *Pyramid*, with the three Giza pyramids as a larger-than-life backdrop to the open-air stage. Although people came from throughout the world to see the show, it was presented for about a week in late May at the new Cairo Opera instead of the Giza stage because of contract problems. The audience was disappointed, but Bejart's genius still came through, captivating his cosmopolitan public.

For Bejart, this was an opportunity to explore further a culture that has permeated his life for the past 20 years, since he converted to Islam. Today, he says, his philosophy of life reaches far beyond

the borders of his small country, Belgium, and even those of Europe.

"Now Europe seems very small," he confides. "Each nation's consciousness extends beyond its borders or that of a whole region; we cannot live isolated anymore. Any tremor can be felt throughout the world. Other people's wounds hurt us, also."

On the other hand, each people strives to retain its identity, its roots, the particular flavour that makes it different.

"That's why I have been touring the world for years — trying to learn from different civilisations the most important lessons each can give. While most people learn with their head, their brain, what's special in my experience is that I learn with my body. Since I was a teenager I have trained to dance and express my feelings and my impressions through physical moves. And when I listen to music — a physical sensation — I reach out to people's soul, understanding them not only with my mind but also with my

heart."

In Cairo, Bejart relied on Islamic music from different countries. The show included five parts. Two had already been staged elsewhere, they are *Alexander* and

## Features

# New York's street walkers may be 'safer' than thought

By Mary Reinholz  
Reuter

**NEW YORK** — Late at night in East Harlem, New York, a small band of streetwalkers solicit passing motorists. A police car cruises by and the women retreat into the shadows.

Further up the dark street a prostitute in tight white pants evokes a sense of eerie desolation as she stands alone, right hand resting provocatively on her hip.

Suddenly, a caravan bearing the logo "Lifestyle Condoms" pulls up. The prostitute, a crack addict and 32-year-old mother, flashes a nervous smile at the driver, John Reid.

"I was missing you," she says, entering the back of the van after Reid had turned a corner and parked alongside an empty petrol filling station.

The prostitute knows from the grapevine that Reid and Phyllis Pearson, a medical assistant working for Greenwich Village Intersex Joyce Wallace, will give her \$10 if she takes the blood test for AIDS — and another \$20 if she phones Wallace's office or

drops by for the results.

Wallace, operating with a grant from the U.S. centres for disease control in Atlanta, has already found that one third of the nearly 950 New York city prostitutes she has studied are infected with the HIV virus that causes the killer disease AIDS.

Of that number, Wallace discovered, 73 per cent took drugs using shared needles. Another 23 per cent who tested positive for the virus reported having sex with intravenous drug users.

Both figures reflect the high risk of offering sex for money in the midst of a deadly epidemic.

Reid, doubling as Wallace's interviewer, sits opposite the prostitute on a couch in the van and asks if she has taken the AIDS test before. She shakes her head.

"I don't lie... I do a lot of things, but I don't lie. I believe in the lord," she says, grimacing slightly as Pearson draws her blood.

Within minutes at least five other prostitutes and their pimps show up, surrounding the van, attracted by the lure of quick cash.

for a blood test.

Reid tells them to wait outside, then continues questioning the first woman. "I used to shoot (inject) drugs," she says. "But I haven't in 10 years."

"(Did you) clean your needles?" asks Reid.

"Yeah," she murmurs.

"Sometimes I'd buy me a new one."

This prostitute lives with her mother, in contrast to a fifth of the streetwalkers surveyed by Wallace who are homeless.

Some of them get paid only three dollars, the current street price of a vial of crack — a highly addictive form of cocaine smoked in a pipe — or even less, from their customers.

Wallace's preliminary findings on streetwalkers and AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is the result of a nine-month study of the blood samples of prostitutes taken in drug-ravaged neighbourhoods.

She notes that the high rate of HIV infection among New York city's estimated 4,000 streetwalkers doesn't necessarily mean that they are spreading the disease.

Dr. Rand Stoneburner, direc-

tor of the AIDS Research Unit for the New York City Department of Health, says that studies by the unit going back to 1985 "do not show that having sex with a prostitute, per se, is a significant risk factor for infection."

But Stoneburner notes that an emerging sub-population of crack-addicted prostitutes engage in sexual transactions more often than other streetwalkers to support their addiction. He says these prostitutes may become a potential risk for spreading AIDS because of their frequent sexual encounters.

They say many prostitutes had been practicing safer sex before the phrase became popular and avoiding hard drugs to protect their source of income — their bodies.

"Maybe they've smoked drugs and done some crack. But largely, there's a prohibition out there," says Arlene Carmen of the Judson Memorial Church in Greenwich Village, who has worked with streetwalkers since the 1970s as part of the church's ministry to prostitutes.

"It's more socially acceptable to say you got (AIDS) from a prostitute than to say you got it from a homosexual encounter or from shared needles," Darrow adds.

Dr. Rand Stoneburner, direc-

tough with only one supervisor for every 30 children."

**TROGEN**, Switzerland — A long way from Bucharest, a dozen Romanian children play in a Swiss chalet decorated with bright Romanian cloth and pictures of the Romanian soccer team.

Switzerland's Pestalozzi village cares for children of all nationalities whose countries are torn by war, famine and revolution.

"These children have suffered so much. Some of them have parents who simply don't want them," said Erich Friemel, a Pestalozzi administrator who has visited Romania.

"They are ashamed because Ceausescu called them his children and now that he has been branded a criminal they are the children of a criminal."

Revelations of appalling conditions in state homes, where orphaned and abandoned children born under former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu are kept, have stunned experienced aid workers who say they have rarely encountered such neglect.

Nine-year-old Nico Smirks as a nurse ruffles his dark hair. He does not want to talk. His eyes are fixed on a large television screen where a World Cup soccer match is about to begin.

"Already he is looking better fed," the nurse says.

Under the Ceausescu dictatorship Romanian women were forced to bear children. Contraception and abortion were illegal.

Families who could not cope with the burden of extra mouths to feed put their children into state homes. Authorities estimate there are children in state homes. Authorities estimate there are now tens of thousands of children in homes, many of whom cannot be adopted because their parents refuse permission.

Elizabeth Bratulescu, one of four nurses who accompanied the children from their home in Giurgiu, south of Bucharest, said: "These kids do not live as badly as some — those deemed 'hopeless cases' — but conditions are

send them back: "But the visit is intended to be an example for the children and the Romanian nurses who are with them of what life can be like."

Over the years, the village has welcomed children from Tibet, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Cambodia and Lebanon. Some have settled in Europe. Others have gone back.

"Our priority is to get the children to return home if possible," said Secretary Ruth Egli.

Critics have attacked the Pestalozzi village for uprooting children from their own culture and forcing them to adopt an alien way of life.

Some children draw pictures of their experiences as a form of therapy. They depict planes dropping tear-shaped bombs on hill-sides and towns.

"Some have no names, no age, no state. If you think you sometimes have identity problems, just imagine that," Egli said.

visited the Matterhorn and the Jungfrau mountains," Egli said, sitting in the village's multi-denominational prayer room.

Children here play together with little regard for political or religious difference but Egli says that a child who has lived through 10 years of war sometimes harbours a depth of hatred which cannot be erased.

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## Man. United, Aston Villa to represent England in European soccer cups

LONDON (R) — Manchester United and Aston Villa, representing England in Europe's soccer cups next season after the country's five-year exile was ended Tuesday, were both drawn against East European sides Wednesday.

Manchester United, the first English winners of the European Cup in 1968, were drawn against Pecsi Munkas of Hungary in the first round of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Aston Villa, also former European Cup winners, mark their return to Europe with a home tie against Banik Ostrava of Czechoslovakia in the UEFA Cup.

The ban on English clubs competing in Europe ended unconditionally Tuesday with the full approval of the British government and the European Football Union (UEFA).

Spanish champions Real Madrid begin their challenge for the European Cup against Odense of Denmark, hoping British Manager John Toshack can fulfil their obsessive quest for the trophy they last won 24 years ago.

Real, six-times winners of the most prestigious European trophy, went out in the second round last season to Italians AC Milan, winners for the last two seasons, who have a bye into the second round.

Italy's second representative in the cup, Napoli, who are hoping Diego Maradona can inspire them to further glory this season, are drawn against Ujpesti Doza of Hungary.

Marseille, whose bid to become the first French club to win the European Cup floundered in the semifinals last season against Benfica of Portugal, face Dinamo Tirana from Albania.

West German champions Bayern Munich, beaten by AC Milan in the semifinals last season and determined to emulate at club level the national team's World Cup success, face an easy first round tie against Apoel Nicosia of Cyprus.

Scotland's Glasgow Rangers, knocked out by Bayern in the first round in 1989-90 but strengthened by the arrival of former England international striker

were seeking refuge in various foreign empires.

The ties for all three competitions are to be played on Sept. 19 and Oct. 3.

East Germany's soccer federation said Tuesday it might withdraw from the qualifying rounds of the 1992 European Championships because of the impending unification of Germany.

East Germany are due to play World Cup champion West Germany in a group five qualifying match in Leipzig on November 21st.

"Two German teams qualifying for the European championships and playing in them could cause problems," Hans-Georg Moldenhauer, president of the East German federation, told journalists. "This match does not have to take place."

Moldenhauer said the match could perhaps be replaced by a farewell game between East Germany and a rest-of-Europe or rest-of-the world side.

His proposal will be on the agenda when the two federations meet to discuss the future of German football in two weeks time.

The two Germans are moving at breakneck speed towards political unification, which is expected to be completed at the end of this year. The countries' Olympic committees could already be merged by then.

If their football federations fail to keep pace, a bizarre situation could arise in which East Germany is represented in an international soccer event after it has ceased to exist as a state.

The West German Football Federation wants East German clubs to join its Bundesliga from the 1992/93 season, but East German officials, worried about the defection of their best players to wealthy Western clubs, want an earlier merger.

Aston Villa Chairman Doug Ellis said of their draw against the Czechs: "It's a test but we are ready for it — ready and willing."

Manchester United Director Amer Midani said: "We are very pleased, delighted with the draw. We want to be ambassadors for English football."

A Marseille club source said they would be contacting the French government to discuss the visit to Tirana as they believed several of the Albanian players

## Cup final referee defends controversial penalty call

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP) — The referee who awarded West Germany the penalty shot against Argentina that decided the World Cup final said Tuesday he is convinced his ruling was legitimate despite the uproar it caused.

Edgardo Cedesal, nationalized Mexican who was born in this South American nation, told the newspaper *El País* that he and International Soccer Federation officials later watched taped replays of the call.

"We all agreed: It was a foul," he said.

Argentine defender Roberto Samsin brushed against attacker Rudi Voeller on the right side of the penalty area as Voeller was about to shoot. West Germany was awarded a penalty shot, which Andreas Brehme kicked and made.

The final score Sunday was West Germany 1, Argentina 0.

Cedesal was criticised severely, first by the Argentine squad and then by newspaper columnists and soccer followers in many countries.

In the interview with *El País*, he rejected accusations he was biased in favour of West Germany.

"If I wanted to hurt Argentina, it would have been much easier to call (a penalty), for example, on an earlier play in which (Argentine goalie Sergio) Goycochea tripped a German" who was approaching the goal, Cedesal was quoted as saying.

"No penalty was called, but if I intended to hurt Argentina, I could have," he said.

The red-card expulsion of

## Baseball

### Americans held to record-low two hits

CHICAGO (AP) — The wind at Wrigley Field was blowing in for the all-star game Tuesday night and the Pitchers were all smiling.

There was talk of hitting houses and bashing 600-foot (183 metre) homers during batting practice Monday, but a 16-mile (25-kilometre) per hour wind for the real thing made that impossible.

There was no score after three innings and each side had one hit.

National League starter Jack Armstrong of Cincinnati breezed through the first two innings, striking out two.

Oakland's Bob Welch started for the American League and allowed only a first-inning single to Will Clark.

Los Angeles right-hander Ramon Martinez walked Steve Sax leading off the AL third and Sax stole second. In an interesting strategy move by NL manager Roer Craig, Wade Boggs was intentionally walked to bring up Jose Canseco.

Martinez came in high and beat to Canseco on an 0-1 pitch, drawing the slugger's attention.

With the crowd of 39,071 chanting "Jose, Jose," the Oakland right fielder hit into a force play to end the threat.

As the players drifted onto the field to prepare for the game, the flags ringing the rooftop were flapping briskly toward the infield.

Hundreds of red, white and blue balloons were released in the outfield, and they quickly headed for the friendly confines above the infield.

Several hours before the game, commissioner Fay Vincent sat in a golf cart behind home plate watching batting practice and the overcast skies.

"It can't rain," Vincent said. "It would not be in the best interest of baseball."

Wilander trained with a glove last week because of blisters.

"I'm grateful I was drawn to play a guy like Johan. He plays the same clay court game as I do. It makes it easier."

Guillermo Perez Roldan, the top seed from Argentina, posted a 6-4, 6-2, win over Swede Thomas Enqvist in another first-round match.

Black-playing Anand, a 21-year-old economics student from Madras, defeated Anthony Miles of the United States in 40 moves of an old Indian defence.

MANILA (R) — Three Soviet grandmasters moved closer Wednesday to qualifying as candidates for the World Chess Championship but India's Anand Viswanathan made the biggest stride, moving within half a point of first place.

The Soviet trio of Boris Gelfand, Vassily Ivanchuk and Mikhail Gurevich tied for top spot at 7.5 points, playing quick draws against their opponents to virtually clinch three of the 11 qualifying slots in the Manila Interzonal Competitions with two rounds to go.

## Soviets keep chess lead but Indian closes in

In 11th round games, Gelfand drew with Soviet defector Victor Korchnoi of Switzerland in 21 moves of a King's Indian while Gurevich halved the point with countryman Leonid Yudasin in 16 moves of an English opening.

Ivanchuk went through some anxious moments before drawing with the aggressive Hungarian Gyula Sax in 31 moves of a Ruy Lopez.

Black-playing Anand, a 21-year-old economics student from Madras, defeated Anthony Miles of the United States in 40 moves of an old Indian defence.



Mats Wilander

## Wilander makes strong showing in comeback

TURIN, Italy (R) — Italian UEFA Cup champions Juventus Tuesday welcomed the lifting of a ban on English soccer clubs competing in Europe — but said Liverpool should also be allowed back.

"We've always been in favour of the English teams playing in Europe. We'd hoped Liverpool would start playing soon too. The World Cup showed that the English team behaved very well," said Juventus spokesman Piero Bianco.

English clubs were barred from Europe in 1985 after a riot at the Juventus-Liverpool European Cup final in Brussels in which 39 people were killed, most of them

Juventus fans.

Bianco said: "We've got excellent relations with Liverpool. In the past few years we've waged a solidarity campaign so that the English teams can play in Europe."

The lifting of the ban was also welcomed in Britain, where team managers said a return to European competition would help improve the quality of the English game.

Aston Villa's Commercial Manager Abdul Rashid said: "We are absolutely delighted. It is a tremendous boost for everyone at the club."

"European competition has its own particular attractions and it is a marvellous reward to our supporters for the tremendous encouragement they gave the club last season."

In France, former UEFA President Jacques Georges said Liverpool could make a quick return to Europe if other English clubs and their supporters behaved.

"The Brussels incidents obliged us to take tough measures. Well, five years on the touchline is very tough," Georges told French radio.

Arsene Wenger, manager of Monaco, said: "I am very happy because you can't really have European cups without the English. They guarantee a good spectacle and fair play."

Meanwhile, Belgian plans to lift a ban on British soccer teams introduced after the 1985 Heysel disaster, a government aide said Tuesday.

Chris Van Lembergen, adviser on soccer hooliganism and public order, said Interior Minister Louis Tobback was to ask his government colleagues to scrap the ban.

"The decision in the cabinet will probably be taken next week," Van Lembergen said.

Unlike UEFA's unilateral banning measure applies to all British clubs, not just the English ones.

Van Lembergen said the ban had been lifted in the past for individual matches but Tobback wanted it abolished altogether.

## Juventus urges UEFA to end Liverpool ban

The Belgian manager of Bordeau, Raymond Goethals, said: "It's very good news for sport and for the players. But let's hope it won't be necessary for the security forces to mobilise an entire town before a match."

Jacques Ruts, chairman of Dutch club PSV Eindhoven, said:

"This is a good thing for European football. From a sporting point of view English clubs have always been fine opponents."

In West Germany, Dortmund Manager Michael Meier said: "In sporting terms, it's a good decision. After five years one should make an attempt. I am looking forward to an eventual duel with Aston Villa."

British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan summed up: "We see this day's decision as the dawning of a new era for English football in Europe — one which we warmly welcome."

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# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 12-13, 1990 7

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

### IBRD lowers interest rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the biggest section of the World Bank, has announced that it will lower its interest rate on new loans to an annual 7.72 per cent for the six months that began July 1. The rate for the previous six months was 7.75. In the last 12 months, the bank made \$15.2 billion worth of loans. The total is expected to rise in its current fiscal year. For some older loans the rate was dropped to 7.7 per cent from 7.75 per cent. The bank calculates the rates it charges on the basis of its own borrowing costs, adding 0.5 per cent.

### EC helps Polish, Hungarian projects

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) has earmarked over a \$100 million worth of cash to boost private enterprise in Poland and Hungary, and EC officials said. Five new projects got clearance last week, and will help small and medium enterprises as well as agriculture in the emerging democracies, an EC statement said. The EC has budgeted 300 million European Currency Units (\$360 million) to help the two countries this year, 240 million of which have now been committed to specific projects. The EC executive commission is coordinating international help from 24 leading Western industrial nations for six East European countries trying to switch from communism to capitalism. The project, which started last year to support Poland and Hungary, was so far raised about \$13 billion for those two countries alone.

### Saudi bank boosts net profit by 37%

BAHRAIN (R) — United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) one of the kingdom's nine joint ventures, has said its net profit for the first six months of 1990 rose by 37 per cent to 55.8 million riyals (\$14.88 million). The bank said in a statement an increase in deposits and loans boosted operating income to 99.3 million riyals (\$26.5 million) in the first half of the year from 88.3 million riyals (\$23.5 million) during the same period in 1989. Expenses were cut by 28.9 million riyals (\$7.7 million) from 32.7 million (\$8.72 million) in the first half of 1989. Provisions against doubtful debts were steady at 15 million riyals (\$4 million). Loans and advances grew by 49 per cent to 1.2 billion riyals (\$320,000). Assets also surged to 6.07 billion riyals (\$1.6 billion) from 4.67 billion (\$1.2 billion). USCB is owned 70 per cent by Saudi nationals, Saudi International Bank, Bank Melli Iran, and United Bank Ltd. each have 10 per cent.

### Islamic bank lends Pakistan \$35m

BAHRAIN (R) — Massraf Faysal Al Islami, one of Bahrain's two offshore Islamic banks, has said it would loan Pakistan \$35 million to finance development projects. The money would be used to finance power, textile, spinning and steel projects. Islamic banks do not take interest or guarantee returns to their depositors because this is viewed as usury, which is prohibited by Islam. They take on the full risk of loans by accepting an agreed percentage of any profits while underwriting any losses.

### Ivory Coast keeps austerity course

ABIDJAN (R) — President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast has replaced his finance minister and ordered closed 12 of the West African country's embassies abroad as proof that he remained committed to economic austerity. An official communiqué said seven Ivorian embassies in Africa, three in Europe and two in Latin America were being closed as part of the government's drive to cut public spending and compensate for declining earnings from coffee and cocoa, the two main exports. The former French colony's conservative government adopted a tough austerity programme June 1 which aims to slash state spending by 25 per cent in return for fresh foreign aid. But it has proved unpopular among Ivory Coast's 12 million population and the once prosperous country has been rocked by months of strikes.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Wednesday, July 11, 1990    |        |                        |       |
|-----------------------------|--------|------------------------|-------|
| Central Bank official rates |        |                        |       |
| Buy                         | Sell   | French franc           | 120.4 |
|                             |        | Japanese yen (for 100) | 448.1 |
| U.S. dollar                 | 662.0  | Dutch guilder          | 450.8 |
| Pound Sterling              | 1203.2 | Swedish crown          | 358.4 |
| Deutschmark                 | 403.9  | Italian lire (for 100) | 112.1 |
| Swiss franc                 | 477.1  | Belgian franc (for 10) | 55.2  |
|                             | 480.0  | Belgian franc (for 10) | 55.5  |
|                             |        |                        | 195.7 |
|                             |        |                        | 196.9 |

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

| LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday. |               |                  |               |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| One Sterling   | 1.8070/80     | U.S. dollar      | 1.1585/90     |
| One U.S. dollar  | 1.6445/50     | Canadian dollar  | 1.8535/45     |
|  | 1.3920/30     | Deutschmarks     | 1.3920/30     |
|  | 33.82/87      | Dutch guilder    | 33.82/87      |
|  | 5.5150/5200   | Swiss francs     | 5.5150/5200   |
|  | 1204/1205     | Belgian francs   | 1204/1205     |
|  | 148.15/25     | French francs    | 148.15/25     |
|  | 5.9500/50     | Italian lire     | 5.9500/50     |
|  | 6.3050/3100   | Japanese yen     | 6.3050/3100   |
|  | 6.2550/2600   | Swedish crowns   | 6.2550/2600   |
| One ounce of gold  | 353.50/354.00 | Norwegian crowns | 353.50/354.00 |
|  |               | Danish crowns    |               |
|  |               | U.S. dollars     |               |

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| 2) BEVERLY HILLS   | At 8:30 p.m.   |         |             |

| Cinema                         |    | CONCORD | Tel: 677420 |
|--------------------------------|----|---------|-------------|
| Dureid Lahham / Madeline Tabar | In | KAFROUN |             |

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

## Islamic bank to arrange 12-year Gulf Air credit

BAHRAIN (R) — The Bahrain bank Massraf Faysal Al Islami said Monday Gulf Air had asked it to arrange a \$365 million credit to buy six new Boeing 767 aircraft.

The Islamic bank said the facility, which it won against strong competition from several international syndicates, would be based on a 12-year lease financing agreement.

It said the pricing would be cheaper than Gulf Air's previous financing from conventional banks but gave no details.

Islamic banks do not take interest or guarantee returns to their depositors because this is viewed as usury, prohibited by Islam. They take on the full risk in lending by accepting an agreed percentage of any profits while underwriting any losses.

Massraf Faysal, one of Bahrain's two offshore Islamic banks, said in a statement it would launch its own asset-based Islamic marketable instrument to raise cash for the deal.

A bank spokesman said the instrument could be bought and sold on a secondary market under terms complying with Islamic Sharia law — a first in the history of Islamic banking.

Gulf Air has ordered the six Boeing 767s, expected to cost around \$69 million each,

## France launches new debt relief initiative

HOUSTON (R) — France, championing the developing world at the rich nations' annual economic summit, launched a bold and potentially expensive plan Tuesday to ease the debt burden of a host of countries ranging from Poland to Jamaica.

President Francois Mitterrand called on his fellow leaders in the Group of Seven leading industrial democracies to lighten the debts that their governments are owed by so-called middle-income countries.

"We must now, here in Houston, take a new step forward," a French statement on the Mitterrand plan said. "It's time to round out the mechanisms that we have gradually put in place."

In 1988 the Group of Seven — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada — agreed at their summit in Toronto to easier terms on the official debts owed by the world's poorest countries.

Last year the Paris summit endorsed a plan, drawn up by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, to reduce the value of the loans owed to commercial banks by big debtors such as Brazil and Mexico.

But, Mitterrand said, some countries have fallen between the cracks, ineligible for the plans because they are not poor enough or owe most of their debt to government creditors.

"How can we fail to see that there is an anomaly in the present arrangements for handling

debt?" Mitterrand asked his counterparts on the second day of their three-day summit.

To plug the gap, he proposed that government creditors choose among three options — reduction of the principal amount of the loan, a lower annual interest rate and a combination of "substantial" new credits and the rescheduling of old debts.

Only countries following courageous economic recovery programmes approved by the International Monetary Fund would qualify for debt concessions, Mitterrand stressed.

Developing nations have a total foreign debt of about \$1.2 trillion. Of that, about \$150 billion is owed to governments and official export credit agencies by middle-income debtors such as Jamaica, Cameroon and Ivory Coast, according to a senior French official.

But he said it was impossible to estimate the cost to governments of the Mitterrand plan, if it were adopted, because its principles would not be applied mechanically.

Rather, creditors would negotiate debt-reduction deals on a case-by-case basis, just as commercial banks have done in applying the Brady plan.

But the cost could be huge. Poland, which owes \$30 billion to Western governments, has asked for an 80 per cent write-down to free money for investment in its ailing economy.

He said the price of petrol

## Bahrain rejects 20,000 live Australian sheep

the preferred age limit of three years, said a spokesman for Primary Industries and Energy Minister John Kerin.

The exporting company is looking for a new market for the sheep, valued at around \$230 million, Australia shipped annually to the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia, which is building up its own commercial sheep flocks, has also rejected live sheep from other countries on the grounds of age and disease, the sources said.

New Zealand, specialising in ram lambs, has benefited. Its live sales to Saudi Arabia in the first six months of this year were double the 483,000 sent in the same period in 1989.

Australian sheep farmers, who until recently were getting a good price for wool, had been trying to divert export live sheep no longer fit for wool.

## Gulf Arabs settle oil row

va on July 25.

The Gulf states would not press for a higher ceiling on total OPEC output and higher individual quotas at the July talks unless average spot prices have rebounded \$18.

Gulf sources said the solution to the UAE problem may be to get to accept a quota of 1.8 million barrels per day (b/d).

Other OPEC ministers thought it had agreed to produce at that level under a stopgap output accord negotiated on May 3, but its output has remained closer to two million.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi, who has publicly attacked Kuwait and the UAE for undermining oil prices and losing other OPEC members' billions of dollars, said he now was optimistic.

The Jeddah meeting was "a positive and important step to correct oil prices," he said. "We hope to achieve a decisive solution for the (UAE) problem within a few days."

The ministers issued a statement Wednesday saying they had agreed to stick to their quota limits until the price is back to

OPEC's \$18 target.

Oil traders, accustomed over

the past year to seeing OPEC pledge to cut output but then fail to do so, said they would want proof of OPEC's good intentions.

Among analysts, Geoff Pyne, energy economist with London finance house UBS Phillips and Drew, said: "I think one has to be a bit cautious but this is a drop that might become a trickle of good news."

London August futures for world benchmark crude oil, North Sea Brent blend, firmed five cents to \$16.10 per barrel.

But oil traders said the firmer price was due more to the news that U.S. crude oil stocks had dropped further than expected in the week to July 6.

While the UAE has demanded a quota of two million barrels daily, the most the OPEC majority has wanted to offer it has been parity with Kuwait at 1.5 million.

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## Monsoon rains cool fears of new war over Kashmir

ISLAMABAD (R) — Monsoon rains and the promise of high-level talks have cooled immediate fears that India and Pakistan will go to war over a Muslim revolt in the Indian state of Kashmir, diplomats said Wednesday.

But they said India's recent decision to give troops and police new powers to fight Kashmiri militants made it more likely the situation would heat up again once the rains stop.

"No one wants to fight in this weather. But we may see tensions rising again, perhaps in September," said one diplomat stationed in Islamabad.

This year's Monsoon, which meteorologists say is heavier than usual, has drenched the plains between India and Pakistan over the past two weeks. Indian news agencies say more than 100 people have died in monsoon flooding.

Heavy downpours have also hit Pakistan and the government's meteorological office has forecast that rivers in the Eastern part of the country will soon begin to flood.

The rains have helped to further cool the subsiding war fever over Kashmir, as the two sides prepare for next week's talks between their top foreign affairs officials.

"The monsoon has a certain practical effect," said one European diplomat in Islamabad. "But the Kashmir situation remains very disturbing."

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars since

independence from Britain in 1947 over Kashmir. Relations plunged to a new low this year with escalating Kashmiri militancy aimed at either independence or union with Pakistan.

Pakistan controls one third of Kashmir. It has accused India of renegeing on a promise to allow the state's Muslim majority to choose in a United Nations-mandated plebiscite whether they want to belong to Hindu-dominated India or Islamic Pakistan.

India dismisses this as interference and has charged Pakistan with arming and training the Muslim guerrillas fighting in Kashmir. Islamabad rejects the accusation.

New Delhi declared much of Kashmir a "disturbed area" on July 5 and has given police and the army sweeping powers — including authority to shoot to kill — to fight the insurgency which has killed more than 700 people in the past six months.

Amid renewed Indian accusations of Pakistani support for the guerrillas, Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto departed Tuesday for a six-day tour of five Muslim countries to drum up international support for her government's position.

Diplomats and political

analysts said the situation would remain "in a holding pattern" as both sides prepare for the talks between the Pakistani and Indian foreign secretaries in Islamabad on July 18 and 19.

Despite cautious government optimism about the talks, many diplomats and officials say privately they see little hope the confrontation will be resolved.

"We don't see much chance of a basic change in India's position," said one Pakistani Foreign Office official.

Meanwhile, army troops on both sides of the border have temporarily turned their attention to the new enemy: flooding brought by the monsoon rains.

In India's desert state of Rajasthan, which military analysts say is one of the most likely theaters for a fourth war between the two neighbors, troops are now battling to stem the destruction brought by the monsoon.

Indian helicopters have dropped food parcels to thousands of Rajasthani residents waiting on flat rooftops, while the air force has ferried in army engineers and veterinary experts to help save stranded cattle.

The Pakistan army, while not yet actively involved in flood relief operations, is watching the situation closely and preparing to mobilize against flooding at any time, an army spokesman said.

"Our main job is to get to places where civilian (relief workers) cannot reach," he said.

in building roadblocks.

A fifth death was confirmed in the district's Muchatha village. A six-year-old girl died there after being hit by a stray bullet, said the newspaper.

Dozens more people also were injured by gunfire and beatings.

The clashes followed last week's detentions of Kenya's most prominent supporters of political pluralism. They began Saturday, when police used tear gas and guns to disperse pro-democracy demonstrators in Kenya's capital.

President Daniel Arap Moi Tuesday blamed the violence on "hooligans and drug addicts."

The clashes followed last week's detentions of Kenya's most prominent supporters of political pluralism. They began Saturday, when police used tear gas and guns to disperse pro-democracy demonstrators in Kenya's capital.

It alleged there were daily cases of people detained illegally, tortured, killed or disappearing.

Ramos said the military was determined to uphold democracy.

"The public must understand," he declared, "that there is a fundamental difference between the government forces which are fighting to preserve stability and the rule of law, and the rebel and terrorist forces which stand for disruption and the rule of fear."

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